

Eligible HHSP Program Costs for Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response

Federal guidance states that “Individuals experiencing homelessness are at greater risk of exposure to a variety of infectious diseases including influenza and coronavirus. Taking effective sanitation measures can reduce the spread of infectious disease for people who are unsheltered or living in emergency shelters.” (<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5986/eligible-esg-program-costs-for-infectious-disease-preparedness/>)

HHSP Subrecipients may use HHSP operations funds for supplies and services to reduce the spread of infectious disease in their emergency shelters or in transitional living activities. In addition, HHSP Subrecipients may use case management, essential services, homelessness prevention or homeless assistance to mitigate the effects of infectious disease on individuals and families who may experience a loss of income due to infectious disease and as a result be at risk of homelessness. For more information on eligible costs, see the 10 Texas Administrative Code §7.27.

Eligible Costs to Support Infectious Disease Preparedness

Operations	
Maintaining a sanitary emergency shelter environment or transitional living will help to keep staff and participants healthy. Listed below are supplies and equipment that are eligible operations costs, which could be useful to limit the spread of disease.	
Supplies	Cleaning supplies such as bleach, disinfectant wipes, scrubbers, mops
	Protective equipment such as masks, disposable gloves
	Program participant personal needs such as bed linens, towels, hand sanitizer, soap, tissue packets
Furnishings	Cots, room dividers
Equipment	Washers, dryers, portable handwashing stations
Rent and utilities	Additional emergency shelter facilities or transitional living activities if necessary for infectious disease preparedness.
Expanding staffing	Hiring additional staff to support infectious disease preparedness
Other related costs	Other related costs necessary for infectious disease preparedness in operating an emergency shelter or transitional living activities.

Eligible Costs to Support Infectious Disease Mitigation

Essential Services	
Essential services are to assist Homeless Households or Households At-risk of Homelessness to find or maintain housing stability	
Out-patient medical services	Out-patient medical costs for Program Participants. This service must be required to find or maintain stable housing.
Child care	Child care costs for Program Participants due to school or daycare closures. These services must be required to find or maintain stable housing.
Mental health services	Mental health services due to anxiety or stress over infectious disease and social distancing in the community. These services must be required to find or maintain stable housing.
Transportation	Transportation costs for Program Participants to travel to and from medical care. These services must be required to find or maintain stable housing.

Homeless Assistance and Homeless Prevention*	
Program Participants who are experiencing Homelessness or who are At-risk of Homelessness and within the income limits set by the Subrecipient may qualify for assistance.	
Hotel or motel costs	Homeless Assistance funds might be able to assist persons who have been directly affected by infectious disease outbreaks or social distancing requirements and who need to be quarantined.
Moving costs	
Rental and utility assistance	
Rental arrears	
Security and utility deposits	
Utility reconnection feeds	
Transitional housing	
Case Management	
Staff salaries	Staff salaries for work related to assessing, arranging, coordinating and monitoring the delivery of services related to finding or maintaining housing.

*Note that income limits apply for Homeless Prevention assistance. For HHSP, the Subrecipient shall establish income limits that do not exceed the moderate income level pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §2306.152, and this limit must be included in the Subrecipient's written policies and procedures.

This resource is intended to help Subrecipients understand the HHSP Program Rules. Always refer to the program regulations to ensure compliance with program requirements.

Please contact hhsp@tdhca.state.tx.us with additional questions.

Related Resources

Texas Department of State Health Services

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Infectious Disease Preparedness Guidance for Homeless Assistance Providers:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/news/materials-posted-infectious-disease-preparedness-guidance-for-homeless-assistance-providers/>

Disease Risks and Homelessness: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/>

Infectious Disease Toolkit for CoCs: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5985/infectious-disease-toolkit-for-cocs/>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Resources for Homeless Shelters: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/index.html>