

year for which emergency shelter grant amounts are made available.

Nonprofit recipient means any private nonprofit organization providing assistance to the homeless, to which a State or unit of general local government distributes emergency shelter grant amounts.

Obligated means that the grantee or State recipient, as appropriate, has placed orders, awarded contracts, received services, or entered similar transactions that require payment from the grant amount. Grant amounts that a unit of general local government or State awards to a private nonprofit organization by a written agreement or letter of award requiring payment from the grant amount are obligated.

Private nonprofit organization means as the term is defined in 42 U.S.C. 11371.

Rehabilitation means the labor, materials, tools, and other costs of improving buildings, other than minor or routine repairs. The term includes where the use of a building is changed to an emergency shelter and the cost of this change and any rehabilitation costs does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before the change in use.

Renovation means rehabilitation that involves costs of 75 percent or less of the value of the building before rehabilitation.

Responsible entity means as the term is defined in § 58.2 of this title, as applied though § 58.1(b)(3) of this title and § 576.57(e).

State means each of the several States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Territory means each of the following: the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau (Trust Territory of the Pacific), and any other territory or possession of the United States.

State recipient means any unit of general local government or nonprofit organization to which a State makes available emergency shelter grant amounts.

Unit of general local government means any city, county, town, township, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State.

Urban county means a county that was classified as an urban county

under 42 U.S.C. 5302(a) for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year for which emergency shelter grant amounts are made available.

Value of the building means the monetary value assigned to a building by an independent real estate appraiser, or as otherwise reasonably established by the grantee or the State recipient.

[54 FR 46799, Nov. 7, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 56128, Oct. 31, 1991; 60 FR 1918, Jan. 5, 1995; 61 FR 5210, Feb. 9, 1996; 61 FR 51548, Oct. 2, 1996]

§ 576.5 Allocation of grant amounts.

(a) *Territories*. HUD will set aside for allocation to the territories an amount equal to 0.2 percent of the total amount of each appropriation under this part in any fiscal year. HUD will allocate this set-aside amount to each territory based upon its proportionate share of the total population of all territories.

(b) *States, metropolitan cities, urban counties, and Indian tribes*. HUD will allocate the amounts that remain after the set-aside to territories under paragraph (a) of this section, to States, metropolitan cities, urban counties, and Indian tribes, as provided in 42 U.S.C. 11373. HUD will subsequently distribute the amount set aside for Indian tribes under this paragraph as provided in § 576.31.

(c) *Notification of allocation amount*. HUD will notify in writing each State, metropolitan city, urban county, and territory that is eligible to receive an allocation under this section of the amount of its allocation.

[61 FR 51549, Oct. 2, 1996]

Subpart B—Eligible Activities

§ 576.21 Eligible activities.

(a) *Eligible activities*. Emergency shelter grant amounts may be used for one or more of the following activities relating to emergency shelter for the homeless:

(1) Renovation, major rehabilitation, or conversion of buildings for use as emergency shelters for the homeless;

(2) Provision of essential services to the homeless, subject to the limitations in paragraph (b) of this section;

(3) Payment for shelter maintenance, operation, rent, repairs, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, and furnishings. Not more than 10 percent of the grant amount may be used for costs of staff;

(4) Developing and implementing homeless prevention activities, subject to the limitations in 42 U.S.C. 11374(a)(4) and paragraph (c) of this section. Grant funds may be used under this paragraph to assist families that have received eviction notices or notices of termination of utility services only if the conditions stated in 42 U.S.C. 11374(a)(4) are met; and

(5) Administrative costs, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 11378.

(b) *Limitations on provision of essential services.* (1) Grant amounts provided by HUD to units of general local government, territories, or Indian tribes, and grant amounts provided by a State to State recipients, may be used to provide an essential service under paragraph (a)(2) of this section only if the service is a new service, or is a quantifiable increase in the level of a service above that which the unit of general local government (or, in the case of a nonprofit organization, the unit of general local government in which the proposed activities are to be located), territory, or Indian tribe, as applicable, provided with local funds during the 12 calendar months immediately before the grantee or State recipient received initial grant amounts.

(2) Limits on the use of assistance for essential services established in 42 U.S.C. 11374(a)(2) are applicable even when the unit of local government, territory, or Indian tribe provides some or all of its grant funds to a nonprofit recipient. This limitation may be waived in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 11374.

(c) *Limitation on homeless prevention activities.* Limits on the use of assistance for homeless prevention activities established in 42 U.S.C. 11374(a)(4) are applicable even when the unit of local government, territory, or Indian tribe provides some or all of its grant funds to a nonprofit recipient.

[61 FR 51549, Oct. 2, 1996]

§ 576.23 Faith-based activities.

(a) Organizations that are religious or faith-based are eligible, on the same

basis as any other organization, to participate in the Emergency Shelter Grants program. Neither the Federal government nor a State or local government receiving funds under Emergency Shelter Grants programs shall discriminate against an organization on the basis of the organization's religious character or affiliation.

(b) Organizations that are directly funded under the Emergency Shelter Grants program may not engage in inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization as part of the programs or services funded under this part. If an organization conducts such activities, the activities must be offered separately, in time or location, from the programs or services funded under this part, and participation must be voluntary for the beneficiaries of the HUD-funded programs or services.

(c) A religious organization that participates in the Emergency Shelter Grants program will retain its independence from Federal, State, and local governments, and may continue to carry out its mission, including the definition, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs, provided that it does not use direct Emergency Shelter Grants funds to support any inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization. Among other things, faith-based organizations may use space in their facilities to provide Emergency Shelter Grants-funded services, without removing religious art, icons, scriptures, or other religious symbols. In addition, an Emergency Shelter Grants-funded religious organization retains its authority over its internal governance, and it may retain religious terms in its organization's name, select its board members on a religious basis, and include religious references in its organization's mission statements and other governing documents.

(d) An organization that participates in the Emergency Shelter Grants program shall not, in providing program assistance, discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion or religious belief.

(e) Emergency shelter grants may not be used for the rehabilitation of