

FY 2023-2025 CSD ERA Ending Homelessness Housing Plus NOFO

Questions & Answers

1. QUESTION: I am not able to download the budget template or scope or work template from SAMIS. The button to click "here" that is blue and takes me to the downloads for other options was not highlighted in blue or available to click for these two options. Please assist. Thank you!

RESPONSE: All documents are now linked within SAMIS.

2. QUESTION: I did not see a place to register for the technical assistance webinar. Please let me know if there is somewhere else I need to register.

RESPONSE: There is no registration required to attend the Technical Assistance Meeting.

3. QUESTION: Are these funds restricted to those impacted by COVID-19?

RESPONSE: Response: The following is the ERA assistance criteria on page 1 of 11 in County Policy# CS-E-005_ERA_update_01-01-23, Policy section

(https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/PDF/RFP/2023/CS-E-005_ERA_update%2001-01-23.pdf):

Eligible Palm Beach County households is a renter household in which at least one or more individuals meets all of the following criteria:

- i. For ERA-2 qualifies for unemployment or experienced other financial hardships during or due to (either directly or indirectly) COVID-19 crisis beginning on March 20, 2020. Amount of assistance requested must be reasonable in relation to the significant costs or other financial hardship. Case Manager or Supervisor will determine reasonableness and may reduce request based on the client's loss/hardship.
 - ii. Demonstrates a risk of homelessness or housing instability; and Has a household income at or below 80% of the area median.
4. QUESTION: Follow up question Covid-19. Covid is officially supposed to end on May 11, 2023. If the federal government follows through with that date and ends COVID-19 on 5/11/23. Applicants who apply after that date, do they still fall under the "during or due to"? For example, a participant that applies in April 2024 do they need to show they were impacted by COVID prior to 5/11/23. (Again, if the federal government holds to that date).

RESPONSE: For households requesting assistance after the COVID Declaration ends, the households needs to show they had a financial crisis after March 20, 2020. It does not have to be a direct result of COVID, just documentation that there was a crisis that occurred DURING COVID

Declaration period. NOTE: The date of the VI-SPDAT was completed by Coordinated Entry, can establish the crisis date.

5. QUESTION: What are the client eligibility requirements if we were granted this funding? For example, will an applicant who applies through our process for emergency assistance be required to have a SSN or proof of PBC residency, etc.?

RESPONSE: Please visit the website listed below to access the FY 2023-2025 CSD ERA Ending Homelessness Housing Plus NOFO Guidance Document. Please review SECTION VI: AGREEMENT FOR PROVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

[Community Services - Financially Assisted Agencies Notice of Funding Opportunity \(pbcgov.org\)](https://www.pbcgov.org/CommunityServices/FinanciallyAssistedAgenciesNoticeofFundingOpportunity)

6. QUESTION: What's additional editor?

RESPONSE: An additional editor is an individual that is also able to edit the application.

7. QUESTION: Can an organization that's applying have a lead agency as partnership

RESPONSE: Yes, an organization that is applying can have a lead agency as partnership. Please make sure that the Partner Letters/MOUs are well-written, outline the partnership(s) between community agencies as detailed as possible and updated within the last 12 months.

8. QUESTION: Can you explain the acuity score again?

RESPONSE: Palm Beach County's Acuity list is formulated through the utilization of an index comprised of multiple indicators of vulnerability, as well as associated criteria for program and/or subpopulation eligibility. Each indicator is weighted. The values of each indicator are calculated to identify a final score. This score determines ranking on the acuity list. The list is ordered from highest to lowest score. The highest scoring client receives priority for service/housing enrollment. Therefore, because acuity is based on a point value assigned to a variety of barriers and/or factors, an acuity scores of 0-5 implies that in addition to rental assistance, the participant household with a low acuity score of 0-5, their barriers to exit homelessness into their own permanent housing are minimal, and their need for case management services are low.

9. QUESTION: Rent Reasonableness will be used, not Fair Market Rents (FMR)?

RESPONSE: Correct, FMR limits are not required for rental assistance via this NOFO.

10. QUESTION: Will Housing Quality Standards (HQS) be required for units?

RESPONSE: Yes, HQS inspections are required.

11. QUESTION: Since there is a typo in the NOFO regarding the AMI being at 50%, but it should be at 80%, will we still have to serve clients with a prioritization for up to 30% AMI?

RESPONSE: Yes, clients on the Acuity List at or below 30% AMI are prioritized, and must be served. A homeless determination letter will be used as income and crisis qualification.

12. QUESTION: To clarify, clients will be referred through Coordinated Entry?

RESPONSE: That is correct, the Acuity List contains clients referred through the Coordinated Entry System and a 0-5 range on the acuity scoring tool.

13. QUESTION: Are utility expenses covered in this NOFO?

RESPONSE: No, utility (electricity, water, gas, etc.) expenses are not covered through this NOFO. However the County offers electricity and water utility assistance under the two (2) programs below via the hyperlink:

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); and
 - Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)
- <https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/communityaction/Pages/Utility-Assistance.aspx>.

14. QUESTION: Where do we include the entire program budget in the excel sheet?

RESPONSE: The Agency's proposal should reflect the source of funding from all sources for each line item in the program budget template for the proposed project.

15. QUESTION: Can you email the PPT from the meeting?

RESPONSE: The PowerPoint Presentation will be post of the website.
<https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/Pages/RFP.aspx>

16. QUESTION: Can you please make the FY2023 Budget Worksheet Template available as an Excel file? It currently downloads as a PDF.

RESPONSE: The current FY2023 Budget Worksheet Template, PDF version, has been replaced with an FY2023 Budget Worksheet excel File.

17. QUESTION: We are experiencing some technical difficulties with the online application, we are receiving an error message when attempting to mark the first section as "complete"

Date submitted is required" – however, there is no box for a date to be entered on the proposal page.

"Locked is required" – however, there is no box to complete for this either.

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved in SAMIS

18. QUESTION: Would it be possible to provide direct links to both of the data sources required to respond to Question 19? The link in the NOFO lands on the general NOFO page, and unless I'm

missing it, I cannot find either document on this page. I am acquainted with both documents but cannot find in-depth PIT information anywhere, and the attached “brochure” is the only document I can find related to the Leading the Way Home document.

RESPONSE: After its release, the 2023 PIT Count data, will be posted in the Resource Section on the FAA NOFO Webpage. The Leading the Way Home Brochure is a data resource.

19. QUESTION: Is the number to serve 100?

RESPONSE: The number of clients to be served is based on the number your Agency can serve. The number of clients currently in need is 100.