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California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 3

ERF-3-R

Applicant Conference

December 7, 2023

California Interagency Council on Homelessness

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Agenda

1. Welcome & Introduction	
2. NOFA Walkthrough	▪ Program Purpose & Priorities ▪ Background & Available Funding ▪ Eligible Uses & Budget Categories ▪ Eligible Applicants ▪ Definition of Encampment ▪ State Right of Way ▪ Statutory Deadlines ▪ Application windows ▪ Reporting ▪ Cal ICH transitioning to HCD
3. Q&A	▪ Answer Submitted Questions ▪ Live Q & A

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Program Purpose

The ERF program will fund actionable, person-centered local proposals that resolve the experience of unsheltered homelessness for people residing in encampments.

Resolving these experiences of homelessness will necessarily address the safety and wellness of people within encampments, resolve critical encampment concerns, and transition individuals into interim shelter with clear pathways to permanent housing or directly into permanent housing, using data-informed, non-punitive, low-barrier, person-centered, Housing First, and coordinated approaches.

Proposals may bolster existing, successful models and/or support new approaches that provide safe, stable, and ultimately permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness in encampments.

Program Priorities

Applications that demonstrate cross-systems collaboration, including collaborations with state and federal entities, and innovative efforts to resolve encampment issues, while focusing on protecting the health and well-being of the individuals living in those encampments.
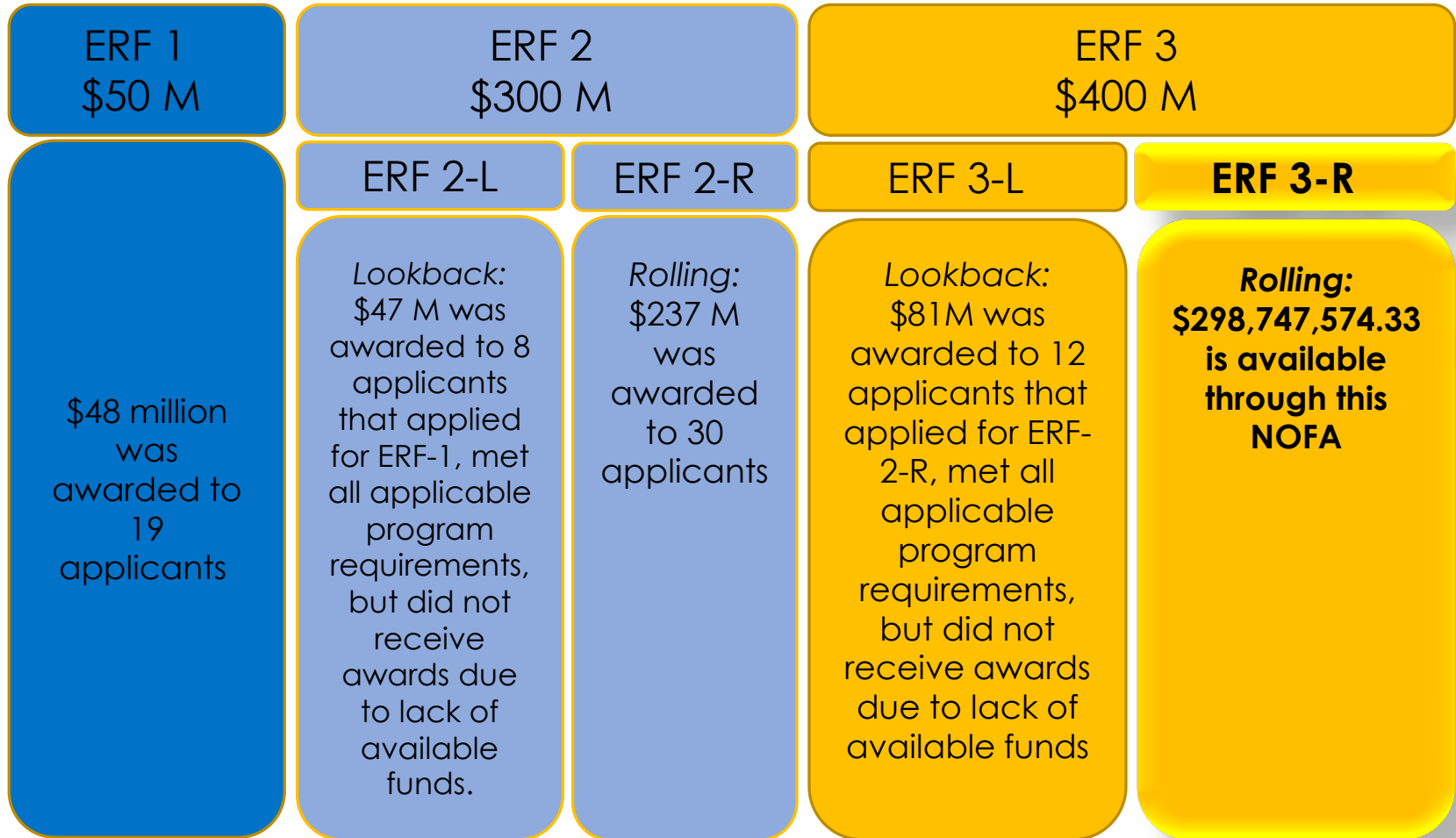
Applications that represent the diversity of communities across the state, including, but not limited to, rural, urban, and suburban communities.

Additionally, up to 50 percent of the available funds will be prioritized for ERF projects that address encampments on state right of way.

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Background & Available Funds

ERF 1 $50 M	ERF 2 $300 M		ERF 3 $400 M	
	ERF 2-L	ERF 2-R	ERF 3-L	**ERF 3-R**
$48 million was awarded to 19 applicants	*Lookback:* $47 M was awarded to 8 applicants that applied for ERF-1, met all applicable program requirements, but did not receive awards due to lack of available funds.	*Rolling:* $237 M was awarded to 30 applicants	*Lookback:* $81M was awarded to 12 applicants that applied for ERF-2-R, met all applicable program requirements, but did not receive awards due to lack of available funds	*Rolling:* **$298,747,574.33 is available through this NOFA**

Eligible Applicants

- **Local Jurisdiction** – means a city, including a charter city, a county, including a charter county, or a city and county, including a charter city and county.

- **Continuum of Care (CoC)** – as defined in Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Eligible Uses

ERF funds must be spent:

- **In alignment with the program objective and awarded proposal**
  - **Objective:** The ERF program will fund actionable, person-centered local proposals that resolve the experience of unsheltered homelessness for people residing in encampments. Resolving these experiences of homelessness will necessarily address the safety and wellness of people within encampments, resolve critical encampment concerns, and transition individuals into interim shelter with clear pathways to permanent housing or directly into permanent housing, using data-informed, non-punitive, low-barrier, person-centered, Housing First, and coordinated approaches.
- **In support of the eligible population identified in the proposal.**
  - **Eligible Population:** people experiencing homelessness in encampments in California.
- **In compliance with Housing First.**
- **Within the grant term.**

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Eligible Use Category	Non-Exhaustive List of Eligible Activities Applied to the Eligible Population
Rapid Rehousing	Rapid rehousing, including housing identification services, rental subsidies, security deposits, incentives to landlords, and holding fees for eligible persons, housing search assistance, case management and facilitating access to other community-based services.
Operating Subsidies	Operating subsidies in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units, emergency shelters, and navigation centers. Operating subsidies may include operating reserves.
Street Outreach	Street outreach to assist eligible persons to access crisis services, interim housing options, and permanent housing and services.
Services Coordination	Services coordination, which may include access to workforce, education, and training programs, or other services needed to improve and promote housing stability for eligible persons, as well as direct case management services being provided to persons.
	Systems support for activities that improve, strengthen, augment, complement, and/or are necessary to create regional partnerships and a homeless services and housing delivery system that resolves persons' experiences of unsheltered homelessness.

Eligible Use Category	Non-Exhaustive List of Eligible Activities Applied to the Eligible Population
Prevention and Shelter Diversion	Prevention and shelter diversion to permanent housing, including flexible forms of financial assistance, problem solving assistance, and other services to prevent people that have been placed into permanent housing from losing their housing and falling back into unsheltered homelessness. This category is only available to serve people who were formerly residing in the prioritized ERF encampment site.
Interim Housing	Interim housing, limited to newly developed clinically enhanced congregate shelters, new or existing non-congregate shelters, and operations of existing navigation centers and shelters based on demonstrated need that are well suited for eligible persons.
Improvements to Existing Emergency Shelters	Improvements to existing emergency shelters to lower barriers, increase privacy, better address the needs of eligible persons, and improve outcomes and exits to permanent housing.
Administrative Costs	Administrative costs incurred by the city, county, continuum of care, to administer its program allocation. Up to 5% of grant funds may be applied to administrative costs.

Encampment

ERF is not intended to be used to fund community-wide encampment resolution.
If an applicant proposes to serve a large, noncontiguous, or multiple site(s),
the encampment may only be addressed through a single application if:

Encampment

- A group of people sleeping outside in the same location for a sustained period.
- The presence of some type of physical structures (e.g., tents, tarps, lean-tos).
- The existence of social support or a sense of community for residents
- The presence of personal belongings (e.g., coolers, bicycles, mattresses, clothes)

(a) the justification for prioritizing the encampments is the same, and
(b) the demographics and service needs of the residents of the encampments is sufficiently similar, and
(c) the same set of services and service providers, including outreach, interim and permanent housing programs, will be used to resolve the identified people's experience of homelessness in encampments.

Applicant must prepare a separate application for each encampment that does not meet the requirements of (a) – (c)

State Right of Way

Up to 50 percent of the $400 million appropriated will be prioritized for proposals that serve people living in encampments on state right of way.

Local Jurisdictions have priority to apply for ERF programs on state right of way, over CoC applicants, until May 1, 2024.

If a CoC applies to serve an encampment located on a state right of way before May 1, 2024, the CoC must provide a Letter of Local Acknowledgment from each overlapping Local Jurisdiction that:

- (1) identifies the prioritized encampment;
- (2) confirms that the CoC has communicated with each Local Jurisdiction about the CoC's intent to apply; and
- (3) that no Local Jurisdiction intends to apply for ERF-3-R funds for the prioritized encampment.

Statutory Deadlines

Table, ERF-3-R Events	Responsible Party	Date(s)
NOFA Release Date	Cal ICH	11/27/2023
Application Release Date	Cal ICH	11/27/2023
Application Window #1	Applicant	11/27/23 - 01/31/24
Review and Award Window #1 Applications	Cal ICH	02/01/24 - 03/31/24
Application Window #2	Applicant	02/01/24 - 04/30/24
Review and Award Window #2 Applications	Cal ICH	05/01/24 - 06/30/24
Application Window #3	Applicant	05/01/24 - 06/30/24
Review and Award Window #3 Applications	Cal ICH	07/01/24 - 08/31/24
Deadline to **Expend** 50% of Allocation	Grantee	06/30/2025
Deadline to **Obligate** 100% of Allocation	Grantee	06/30/2025
Deadline to **Expend** 100% of Allocation	Grantee	06/30/2027

Application Windows

	2023		2024							
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Application Window 1	■	■	■							
Review of Window 1 Apps				■	■					
Application Window 2				■	■	■				
Review of Window 2 Apps							■	■		
Application Window 3							■	■		
Review of Window 3 Apps									■	■

Reporting

The grantee shall submit quarterly reports in a format provided by Cal ICH.

Grantees shall adopt a specific project setup in their local HMIS that allows Cal ICH to identify all the served clients.

Once an application is submitted and approved, no substantive changes to the program design are allowed unless grantees
   (1) inform Cal ICH of the change to the program design;
   (2) explain the impacts of the program design change; and
   (3) receive written approval from Cal ICH to proceed.

If enforcement action is taken or the encampment is otherwise disbursed, the grantee must notify Cal ICH immediately.

Grantees may also receive ad hoc requests for information from Cal ICH or its contractors in support of program monitoring, research, and evaluation.

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Grant administration work of the Council will be transferred to HCD in fiscal year 24-25.

As entities both under BCSH, the Council and HCD will continue to coordinate closely to achieve a seamless transition for grantees.

Ultimately, transferring the administration of the grant programs to HCD will allow for greater support and technical assistance to grantees, ensuring greater homelessness reduction outcomes.

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Q&A

Cal ICH Website:

https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/calich/erf_program.html

Questions:

calichgrants@bcsh.ca.gov with subject line: "ERF 3-R Application"

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