



CALIFORNIA HOMELESS COORDINATING AND FINANCING COUNCIL

Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor | Alexis Podesta, Chair

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Notice of Funding Availability Released for \$500 Million in Homeless Emergency Aid Program Funding

Funding to be distributed as soon as applications are processed and approved.

SACRAMENTO – The California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council has released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for \$500 million in block grants for the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) to help local jurisdictions address homelessness.

HEAP funding is designed to provide local jurisdictions with maximum flexibility and can be spent on a broad range of activities to address homelessness, such as emergency housing vouchers, rapid rehousing programs, emergency shelter construction or providing comprehensive homeless services, among other activities. At least five-percent must be used to address youth homelessness.

“Local jurisdictions are on the front lines of addressing homelessness,” said Alexis Podesta, Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, and Chair of the Council. “HEAP funding allows them to address their immediate homelessness challenges in the ways they deem best for their communities.”

To qualify for HEAP, local jurisdictions must declare a shelter crisis and complete the appropriate application(s) for the funding they’re seeking. The council has streamlined the application and review process for HEAP and funds will be distributed as soon as an application has been reviewed and approved. The deadline to apply is December 31, 2018 but early applications are strongly encouraged.

Funding will be allocated as follows:

- \$250 million to Continuums of Care – the local or regional planning bodies that coordinate housing services and funding for the homeless – based on their 2017 homeless point in time counts;
- \$150 million in direct allocations to cities with populations of 330,000 or more as of January 1, 2018; and
- \$100 million to Continuums of Care based on their percentage of the 2017 statewide homeless population.

The Homeless Emergency Aid Program was created by Senate Bill 850 and signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. on June 27. It is designed to provide immediate assistance to local jurisdictions until a permanent source of funding is established.

For more information about HEAP, visit https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc/aid_program.html.

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