

Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
Gavin Newsom, Governor | Lourdes M. Castro Ramírez, Secretary

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Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council Accepting Standard Agreements for \$1B in Funding

Eligible applicants for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program encouraged to apply jointly for new funds.

SACRAMENTO – The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) has released its standard agreement to apply for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program. In this agreement, applicants must indicate whether they intend to apply for HHAP-3 funding jointly with an overlapping jurisdiction or apply as an individual entity in order to receive an initial disbursement of funds. Eligible applicants that apply jointly will receive a larger initial disbursement.

"We encourage all eligible applicants to submit their agreements quickly and apply jointly where possible to enhance regional coordination with their homelessness efforts," said Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez, who chairs the Council. "This is just the first step in the HHAP-3 application process and HCFC will work with grantees to meet upcoming milestones, including developing local homelessness action plans and performance goals."

HCFC has been informing stakeholders about the Standard Agreement at their biweekly office hours since early August to ensure eligible applicants were aware of this requirement and associated deadline. They have also developed and posted an <u>FAQ</u> on the Standard Agreement based on the questions received individually and through office hours.

This third round of HHAP funding was authorized by AB 140 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 111, Statutes of 2021) and was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 19, 2021. HCFC will release \$200M now and about another \$600M will go out next year during the second phase of the HHAP-3 application process. The rest of the funding will go out in 2024 as bonus funds for grantees that meet their goals.

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The HHAP Standard Agreement to Apply is a statutorily required form provided by HCFC that must be completed by eligible HHAP-3 grantees (CoC's, Counties, and large Cities). The Standard Agreement was released on September 15, 2021, per statute, and must be completed and submitted back to HCFC by eligible grantees no later than October 15, 2021. HCFC is proud to hit this first statutory milestone as they begin implementing HHAP-3.

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The Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency protects consumers by licensing and regulating California professionals and businesses; promotes and funds safe, affordable, and dignified rental and homeownership opportunities; guards the civil rights of all Californians from acts of hate violence and unlawful discrimination; and partners with local communities to prevent and end homelessness. For more information, visit www.bcsh.ca.gov.

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council oversees the implementation of "<u>Housing First</u>" policies, guidelines, and regulations and identifies resources, benefits, and services to prevent and work toward ending homelessness in California. For more information, visit www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc.