



Using Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) for Affordable Housing

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) created the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF), which can be used on a number of activities to address the public health and economic effects of the pandemic. This program provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity for local governments to address the affordable housing crisis. Now is the time for advocates, housing professionals, and local governments to devote a substantial amount of SLFRF dollars to address the housing crisis.

How can this money be spent on affordable housing?

Local governments have the flexibility to spend their SLFRF funds on a broad variety of affordable housing activities. The following list describes the activities that Treasury has confirmed are eligible. Even if a use is not stated here or in the Treasury Final Rule, a use may be eligible if the local government can show that the use is addressing the economic effects of COVID-19.

Construction costs	Rent and mortgage assistance	Demolition or deconstruction of vacant or abandoned buildings
Land acquisition and title clearing	Environmental remediation	Conversion of vacant or abandoned properties into affordable housing
Down payment assistance	Housing vouchers and relocation assistance	Inspection fees
Gap Financing	Supportive housing services	Site prep work and infrastructure
Operating support, housing counseling, and legal aid	Home repair and preservation	Housing counseling and legal aid

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Who is eligible?

Income eligibility depends on the affordable housing use. Any housing activity that would be eligible under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) or the National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) is presumed eligible for SLFRF funding. The following households and communities are also presumed to be eligible depending on the activity. Even if a household or population is not presumed eligible, a local government may still serve them if it can show the household or population was impacted or disproportionately impacted economically by the pandemic.

Low- or moderate-income households or communities as defined by Treasury	Households that qualify for LIHEAP	Households and developments in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Households that qualify for Section 8 vouchers	Households that experienced unemployment or housing insecurity	Households that qualify for Medicaid, TANF, SNAP, SSI, and other listed programs.

For questions on advocacy or implementation of SLFRF-funded affordable housing programs, contact Kody Glazer at glazer@flhousing

What are the main messages for advocates?

- Even though local governments are allowed to use these federal funds for a broad range of programs, there are few as pressing as the ones that address the affordable housing crisis.
- This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to address the affordable housing shortage.
- The amount in ARPA funds that a local government receives drastically exceeds what a local government receives in SHIP funds annually.