

Colorado Community Action Association

Colorado Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
2020 Contract, Budget, CNA/CAP, and CARES Act Webinar

April 8, 2020



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs
Division of Local Government



RESOURCE: [CDPHE COVID-19 Webpage](#)

RESOURCE: [DOLA/DOH COVID-19 Webpage](#)

RESOURCE: [Community Action Partnership](#)

RESOURCE: [CAPLAW](#)

RESOURCE: [NCAF](#)

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- 2020 CSBG Contract and Budget Unilateral Changes
- 2021 Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan Update
- CARES Act and CSBG – What we know...
- Questions and Answer
- Next Steps

2020 CSBG Contract and Budget Unilateral Changes

Contract Changes: Existing language in your contracts allows for the unilateral reissuing of contracts with updated terms and accepting funds following the reissue indicates that your agency agrees to the new terms. We have received departmental approval to do this with the following updates (examples attached).

These changes do not require you to undertake any specific activities but provide you with the flexibility to respond with locally determined solutions:

- Add the "Other - Emergency management/disaster relief" Federal Objective to your contract. All responses to the COVID-19 crisis will fall under this Federal Objective (and all CSBG strategies/services are allowable under this objective).
- Add all the eligible expense categories to your contract. This change is necessary to allow you to spend in new categories for your new activities.

What it means: With your 2020 CSBG regular funds (and your 2020 CARES Act CSBG funds) you can conduct any strategy/service allowable in CSBG (see Annual Report Modules 3/Section C and Module 4/Section B) if it relates to the relief/recovery to the COVID-19 emergency.

AND

All budget categories are eligible for spending (including sub-grantee activities).

2020 CSBG Contract and Budget Unilateral Changes

Compliance: The changes to your state contracts allow for greater flexibility, however, all of your activities must still be eligible based on federal rules and regulations and we strongly encourage you to reach out to us if you have any questions about the eligibility/allowability of any activities or expenses. The state will disallow any expenses that are not federally eligible. We will be working with you on your new activities, helping in any way possible with planning and documentation.

Chief Elected Officials: As previously stated, requesting funds after the reissue of the contract indicates that your organization accepts the updated terms. We will be sending another email to your chief elected official (cc'ing you) with brief information on CSBG, how the contracts will be changed, and their options if they do not want to accept the changes. If you foresee any questions or concerns from your elected officials/county leadership about the contract changes or the process please notify us as soon as possible so that we can work with you on a solution.

2020 Funding: This contract update will also include your remaining 2020 amount. I hope to send out the amount that you will be allocated for 2020 this week.

What it means: All other CSBG rules/requirements still apply to 2020 regular funds.

AND

Your Chief Elected Official will receive information on CSBG.

AND

2020 Funding amounts have been finalized and the full allocation is coming immediately.

2021 Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan Update

We are still working on plans for an amended process but we understand that you are likely unable to conduct work on your community needs assessment or community action plans currently and for the foreseeable future. We also understand that changes are happening rapidly within your community and that needs identified now may not reflect the long-term needs that you will address for the next contract cycle.

We are working on developing a solution, taking that into account while adhering to the federal programmatic requirements for needs assessments and action plans. For the time being, we encourage you to focus on your activities and we will have more information for you in the future.

What it means: The CSBG Act required Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan process should not be prioritized right now.

AND DOLA will provide templates for the CNA/CAP that will be used to identify 2021 needs and objectives which will be due October 1, 2020.

CARES Act and CSBG – What we know now...

Hopefully you are aware that CSBG was included in the third supplemental COVID-19 Aid package (CARES Act) and that you will be receiving an additional allocation of CSBG funds that will be approximately 130% of your 2020 allocation.

The client income eligibility for that funding was set at 200% of the FPL, which we believe will allow you to better assist your communities.

However, **the 200% FPL income eligibility level does not apply to your regular 2020 funding**, and you will need systems and processes to be able to demonstrate that funds from your regular 2020 allocation are used on customers at or below 125% of the FPL.

The funding expires at the end of the Federal FY2022 budget year (September 30, 2022).

What it means: An additional 130% of your 2020 Allocation as soon as possible!!!!

AND we can use those funds to help folks at/below 200% FPL (2020 regular funds still require 125%) so we will need to track the two set of funds separately if serving above 125% with CARES Act funds.

AND we are still anticipating a regular Federal FY2021 (and FY2022) CSBG funds as well, so we need to plan accordingly.

**Thank you for all you are doing for your
community!!!**

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<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/community-services-block-grant-csbg>

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