



McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)

Illinois State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

Key Information

This level of funding is subject to increase, decrease or non-availability. Estimated Community Funding Available:

\$135,000

Estimated Dates for Use of Funding:

07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027

Minimum Grant Request:

\$25,000

Allocation awarded to McHenry County CoC

State of Illinois Requirements – IMPORTANT!

If your project is recommended for ESG funding, the following forms (and possibly more) must be attached with the application sent to the State of Illinois. You do not have to gather this information if your application is not recommended for funding. However, we encourage applicants to begin compiling their documents as soon as possible in the event their project is funded.

1. Provider Funding Packet
2. Program Description
3. ESG Submission Checklist
4. Provider Budget Page
5. Religious Organization
6. Certificate of local approval
7. Program Certification
8. Provider application review flow chart
9. Environmental assessment 1
10. Environmental assessment 2
11. Environmental assessment 3
12. Lead based Paint certification.
13. Subcontract
14. Subcontract
15. Shelter Habitability checklist
16. Permanent Housing checklist
17. Index of required attachments.

McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness
Application Requirements – Initial Submission to McHenry County
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Program
Anticipated funding for use between 07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027

Letter of Intent (LOI) Packets Must Include

1. Signed LOI (no more than four pages) identifying use of funding, willingness to comply with State, Federal, and Local policies, and proposed number of clients served. Please refer to allowable expense categories in this packet.
2. Client program entry policy and policy and procedures manual for proposed project(s)
3. Client grievance policy for proposed project(s) or organization
4. MOU's and/or supporting documentation, beyond a supplemental narrative, regarding how a client is notified of, and introduced to, outside services. If this information is found in agencies Policies and Procedures manual, or other documentation, please provide and specify page / paragraph where it can be found.
5. IRS 501(c)(3) Letter
6. Most recent financial audit
7. Any letters to management from most recent financial audit
8. IRS 990 and State of Illinois AG-990

Program Description

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 broadened existing emergency shelter and homelessness prevention activities and emphasizes local community decision making processes to confront homelessness. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) offers funding to public and non-profit organizations that are responding to the needs of homeless populations through a comprehensive communitywide planning process and implementation strategy known as “Confronting Homelessness in McHenry County.” Potential applicants for ESG funding should review the [State of Illinois Eligible Activities](#)

Timeline- Subject to change

April 1, 2026, at 5:00pm CDT: LOI packets are due to the McHenry County Community Development Division

Per the McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness, late applications will not be accepted. The Ranking work group may reach out to applicants to request additional information after the LOI packet has been submitted.

Submission by email to:

Janet Sanchez at Jsanchez@mchenrycountyil.gov

Please use the Subject Line: "SFY 2027 ESG Application Submission"

Submission by mail to (please ensure receipt of application BY the due date):

Janet Sanchez, Community Development Specialist
McHenry County Department of Planning and Development
2200 North Seminary Avenue
Woodstock, IL 60098

Submission by personal drop-off to:

Janet Sanchez, Community Development Specialist
McHenry County Department of Planning and Development, Room 208
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

April 10, 2026, at 11:00 am CDT: The McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness Ranking work group will meet to review applications. Recommendations will then be forwarded to the full Continuum of Care for further consideration.

April 16, 2026, at 11:00 am CDT: The McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness Full Board will convene for its usual meeting and consider the funding recommendations submitted by the McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness Ranking work group.

An organization allocated funding should expect the following:

1. A lengthy application to be submitted to the State of Illinois, as ESG grantee, for funding
2. Quarterly and annual ESG reporting to both the CoC and to the State of Illinois
3. Program monitoring by the State of Illinois or local Planning Grantee

May 1, 2026, by 4:00pm CDT: The McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness will submit approved recommended agencies for funding to the Illinois Department of Human Services.

To become a subrecipient of State of Illinois ESG funds, which means to become a grantee that can receive funding to operate a program, organizations:

- Must be a unit of general-purpose local government or a private nonprofit organization
- Must have the financial capacity to manage federal funds compliant with governing regulations at 24 CFR 576 and 2 CFR 200
- Must have the programmatic capacity to carry out proposed project compliant with governing regulations at 24 CFR 576
- Must meet State of Illinois Pre-Award Requirements:
 - Must be registered and in Good Standing with the [Illinois State Secretary of State](#)
 - Must not be on the Federal Excluded Parties List, Illinois Stop Pay List or on the Dept. Of Healthcare and Family Services Sanctions List
 - Must [obtain a FEIN/EIN from the IRS](#) if you do not already have one
 - Must have register for [SAM.gov](#), have a current Federal System for Award Management Commercial and Government Entity Code (SAM Cage Code) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
 - Must sign up for [Illinois.gov](#) and link GATA Account

Transitional and emergency shelter operators in McHenry County may apply for Emergency Shelter Services and Operations. Transitional shelters qualify if they received funding for Emergency Shelter and Services in HUD FY 2010.

Applicants are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match to the amount of funding they receive.

Community Development Division Staff are happy to work with potential applicants to determine if projects are eligible.

Shelter Renovation and Rehabilitation as well as Homelessness Prevention activities are currently ***ineligible***.

At least 40% of the total funding allotment must be some form of Rapid Rehousing (TBRA-RRH and HRSS).