

PENNSYLVANIA COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT CARES ACT

SUPPLEMENTAL STATE PLAN | AUGUST 2020



Pennsylvania Community Services Block Grant CARES Act Supplemental State Plan

The Federal Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Services is requesting an abbreviated State Plan for funding granted under the CARES Act to provide additional information for the previously accepted 2019-2021 CSBG State Plan.

1.1 This plan will be submitted via the Federal reporting system, OLDC by September 1, 2020.

1.2 The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), Center for Community Services, is the lead agency at the state level who administers the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the supplemental CARES Act funding.

1.4 The DCED point of contact for this grant is Lynette Praster, Director, DCED Center for Community Services lpraster@pa.gov, 717-720-1350.

2.1 There is no special state legislation or regulation that directly impacts the implementation of CSBG CARES supplemental funding.

3.1. State Plan Goals: Describe the state's specific goals for state administration of CSBG as it directly relates to the CSBG CARES funding.

Note: For examples of "goals," see State Accountability Measure 1Sa(i).

Pennsylvania's CSBG agencies are serving as front line warriors during the COVID-19 pandemic battle. By closing office doors, and teleworking to providing emergency services, Community Action is meeting community needs with emergency food distribution, food shortage resolutions, homeless sheltering, prisoner re-entry assistance, filling technology and tech equipment gaps, among many others. The network is continuing to provide these services to assist people in their communities as PA slowly opens back up and moves into pandemic recovery.

DCED recognizes that specific goals for administering CSBG CARES revolve first around assuring that every agency can access their CARES funding to make investments targeted to the specific needs of its local community and to use the CSBG funds in conjunction with other federal, state, local, and private funding streams. During weekly calls with the Community Action Association of PA (CAAP) and the CSBG network, agencies have discussed proactive needs assessment processes utilized during the pandemic and ideas and solutions. These various discussions helped to form their CARES workplan goals based on current and emerging needs in their service areas and the assessment of the variety of activities and funding streams being distributed to communities across the state. DCED will remain as flexible as possible in those processes so that the agencies may provide help where it is needed most by the families and communities impacted by the pandemic.

In considering both the emergency and long-term services proposed by the agencies in their CARES workplans, DCED encourages the network's commitment to navigation and case management activities, including the consideration of social determinants of health. Therefore, implementing a Whole Family Approach appears to be the most integrated and realistic approach to adequately meet people and communities where they are on the spectrum of this pandemic emergency and assist them on their journey to long term recovery. The Whole Family Approach will further integrate multi-generational approaches into Community Action Agency programs currently offered. This will be coupled with attention to Agency Change Management. DCED, in partnership with the CAAP, will focus resources to the CSBG network during their on-going readjustments to the shifting opportunities and threats within these challenging times to meet new community and agency needs.

Additionally, DCED will encourage the network's involvement in social justice activities that will connect Human Capacity with Community Transformation. Creating true partnership with government and other non-profit/social service providers and encouraging specific education about racial injustice are goal activities. Social Justice and Racial Equity is recognized as the mission of the network which can identify and change institutional, systemic racism and work toward ensuring a just and equitable opportunity for all citizens in PA.

3.2. Eligible Entity Involvement: Describe the specific steps the state took in developing the CSBG CARES Supplemental State Plan to involve the eligible entities.

The State CSBG Lead Agency (DCED) and State Association (CAAP) work in partnership in identifying and responding to the needs of the local Community Action Agencies (CAA). Together, we touch base with each CAA regularly through correspondence and phone calls. As stated, during the pandemic, we instituted peer calls on a weekly (now bi-weekly) basis to offer support on reacting to changes in agency operations to respond to new or greater community needs, and later the modified reopening of agencies. As the pandemic causes the community needs to shift, the agencies must also shift direction in their operations to address the emerging changes. DCED and CAAP likewise shift the kind and amount of support to meet the network needs. DCED has been reviewing CARES CSBG work plans based on mini-needs assessments conducted by each agency. CAAP is conducting a training and technical assistance needs survey of the local agencies. DCED and the CAAP meet on a regular basis and are working more closely together than ever before. We have no less than one monthly DCED CAAP meeting, and we maintain a constant cycle of communication with emails/phone calls daily. All of these meetings, emails and phone calls have included discussions and resolutions for combatting issues related to the pandemic. This collaboration will continue because we effectively work as a team. Together we identify network needs, with CAAP providing training that includes input provided by DCED. CAAP and DCED have a sound working relationship with mutual respect of ideas and thoughts that are thoroughly discussed to ensure the matter is correctly covered and presented to the CSBG network.

The use of the weekly and now bi-weekly calls with the agency network as well as the intensive contacts between DCED and the CAAP has provided the substance of this abbreviated CARES CSBG State Plan. The Goals as stated within this Plan and the CARES Workplans submitted by the agencies are a direct product of the intensive communication demonstrated throughout the last many months of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Plan draft will be discussed during a scheduled bi-weekly call with the network and then once the CARES Plan is posted, the agency network will have the opportunity to comment with questions, ideas or suggestions before the CARES State Plan is officially submitted.

4.1. Public Inspection: Describe how the CSBG CARES Supplemental State Plan has been made available for public inspection within the state to facilitate public review and comment.

Pennsylvania CSBG agencies will receive a draft copy of the state plan document via email at the same time the Plan is posted on DCED's website for public review and comment. The document will be available on the website for 10 business days. The CSBG agencies will also have 10 business days to review and comment on the plan. During this time there will be a state-wide agency call during which the plan will be discussed and comments will be taken.

5.1 CSBG Eligible Entities:

Pennsylvania has 43 CSBG eligible entities which include one (1) limited purpose agency, eight (8) county government departments, and thirty-four (34) private non-profit organizations. A list of these agencies can be found on DCED's website: www.dced.pa.gov

5.2. Total number of CSBG eligible entities: 43

5.3. **Special Circumstances [Optional]:** If the state has any specific circumstances that will affect the allocation, such as a pending de-designation hearing for an eligible entity, please describe below:

No special circumstances were applied to the CSBG CARES Supplemental allocations.

Section 6: Organizational Standards for Eligible Entities

For the purposes of the CARES Act, the Office of Community Services accepts the data submitted by the state in Section 6 of the most recently submitted CSBG State Plan (as dated in Section 1 of this Supplemental State Plan) and seeks no additional information.

7.1 **Formula:** The Method that best describes the current practice for allocating CSBG funds is a base amount plus formula.

7.2 **Planned Allocation:** **\$38,098,949** of the CSBG CARES allocation will be granted to eligible entities as described in Section 675C(a) of the CSBG Act.

7.3 **Allocated Funds:** **\$2,116,608** of the CSBG CARES allocation will be used for administrative activities for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan.

7.4 **State Staff:** Provide the number of state staff positions to be funded in whole or in part with CSBG CARES funds for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan. **Numeric Response=3**

7.5 **State FTEs:** Provide the number of state Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) to be funded with CSBG CARES funds for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan? **Numeric Response=1.5**

7.6. **Remainder/Discretionary Funds Use:** Does the state have remainder/discretionary funds, as described in Section 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act? Yes

If yes, provide the allocated percentage and describe the use of the remainder/discretionary funds.

DCED plans to use \$400,000 of CSBG CARES Discretionary for Statewide Coordination and Communication among eligible entities in the form of increased staffing for the Community Action Association of Pennsylvania (CAAP). These staff members will also be utilized to help collaborate with DCED and communicate with the agencies as plans are implemented to assist with integrating a whole family approach, change management, and social justice strategies.

DCED also plans to use \$100,000 in CARES Discretionary to fund Training and Technical Assistance through education of the CSBG agencies on topics of social justice as they formulate strategies to address social injustice and racism in their communities.

DCED will devote the remainder of the CSBG Discretionary (\$1,616,608) to Innovative programs and Activities by eligible entities. These activities will likely include creative and new ways of serving individuals and families with rapidly changing needs, new partnerships with local governments and other service providers to develop strategies to help communities recover from economic damage from the COVID-19 pandemic, and overhaul agency operations to successfully adapt to a new environment of social service provision.

7.7. Summary of State Allocations: 90% Funds: \$38,098,949; Administrative funds: \$2,116,608; Discretionary Funds: \$2,116,608; Total: \$42,332,166.

8.1. Training and Technical Assistance Plan: Describe the state's plan for delivering CSBG-funded training and technical assistance to eligible entities under this State Plan.

During the duration of this plan, both training and technical assistance for eligible entities in the topic of Strategic Planning. This will be done through the efforts of the CAAP to provide resources and education on topics of social justice to assist the agencies with developing solutions to social issues in their communities, and Whole Family case management, and operational change management.

8.1a. Training and Technical Assistance Budget: The planned budget for the training and technical assistance plan (as indicated in the Remainder/Discretionary Funds table in item 7.6): \$100,000

8.1b. Training and Technical Assistance Collaboration: Describe how the state will collaborate with the State Association and other stakeholders in the planning and delivery of training and technical assistance.

DCED will collaborate with the CAAP to provide training and technical assistance to the CSBG network. The CAAP and DCED will continue to conduct bi-weekly network wide calls to discuss current circumstances and problems the agencies may be experiencing. During these calls we will encourage sharing of solutions and resources among the agencies as well as offering assistance from our agencies as needed. Throughout the duration of this plan, DCED and CAAP will collaborate during monthly meetings to discuss feed back from the agencies regarding problems they are facing, and coordinate training or technical assistance to assist with these issues. As necessary we will plan remote training sessions and provide resources that will be helpful. DCED and CAAP will also collaborate to provide one-on-one assistance as needed by individual agencies. CAAP will also be hiring new staff to help implement the training and technical assistance efforts we have outlined. These staff members will also be utilized to help collaborate with DCED and communicate with the agencies as plans are implemented.

8.2. Training and Technical Assistance Organizations: Indicate the types of organizations through which the state plans to provide training and/or technical assistance as described in Item 8.1.

The State Community Action Association will provide training and/or technical assistance.

9.1. State Linkages and Coordination at the State Level: Describe the linkages and coordination at the state level that the state intends to create or maintain to ensure increased access to CSBG services to low-income people and communities under this State Plan and avoid duplication of services (as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(5)). Describe additional information as needed. [Check all that apply from the list below and provide a Narrative, 5000 Characters]

- State Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) office
- State Weatherization office
- State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) office
- State Head Start office
- State public health office
- State education department

- ✘ State Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) agency
- ✘ State budget office
- ✘ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- State child welfare office
- ✘ State housing office
- ✘ Emergency Management
- Public Health/Disease Control
- Other

DCED Staff and CAAP staff participated in several task forces and special meetings throughout the pandemic and currently during recovery with the offices noted. Special participation occurred as members of Emergency Feeding Task Force and Housing Task Force as well collaboration meetings with Budget offices, Emergency Management and Departments of Human Services and Agriculture.

DCED staff also participates in a bi-weekly workforce call with the local CareerLinks and the Department of Labor and Industry. Collaborative work focused on solidifying local relationships between Community Action Agencies and CareerLink staff so that smooth partnerships exist as people seek help from their workforce development or community action resources. DCED and the PA Department of Labor & Industry are partnering and communicating to resolve any local issues and technical assistance needs that should be enhanced due to the pandemic and regarding the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

9.2. Communication with Eligible Entities and the State Community Action Association: Detail how the state intends to communicate with eligible entities, the State Community Action Association and other partners identified under this state plan on the topics listed below.

- State Monitoring Plans and Policies, as needed by phone calls, and email.
- Training and Technical Assistance plans, twice-monthly by phone calls.
- State Interagency Coordination, twice-monthly by phone calls.
- CSBG CARES funding and Activities, twice-monthly and as needed by phone calls and emails.

10.1. CSBG CARES Supplemental Monitoring Schedule: provide how the state plans to monitor as it specifically relates to the CSBG CARES Supplemental.

The CSBG agencies will be monitored according to the already established schedule submitted in the FFY 2019-2021 CSBG State Plan. Monitoring on CSBG CARES funding will be incorporated in to the regular monitoring process. As we operate under travel restrictions and work-from-home mandates, the monitoring schedule will be adjusted as we proceed through the program year to accommodate these circumstances.

10.2. CSBG CARES Supplemental Monitoring Approach: Describe how the state intends to implement monitoring policies and procedures as it relates directly to the CSBG CARES Supplemental.

The State will develop a special section to be added to the current monitoring tool that specifically examines the use of CSBG CARES funding.

10.3. CSBG CARES Supplemental Initial Monitoring Reports: If the state monitors for CSBG CARES Supplemental only, provide the number of calendar days by which the state must disseminate an initial CSBG CARES Supplemental monitoring reports to local entities?

The state is integrating all CSBG CARES supplemental monitoring into the regular CSBG full on-site monitoring so the policy of 30 days to issue a report applies to CARES as well.

10.4. Closing Findings: Is the state adding additional provisions to state monitoring procedures for addressing eligible entity findings/deficiencies, and the documenting closure of findings as it specifically relates to the CSBG CARES Supplemental? **Yes**

10.4a. Closing Findings Procedures: If yes, describe the additional provisions here.

DCED will add a section to the current monitoring tool to review CSBG CARES funding uses which will include a separate section to delineate findings/deficiencies that are specific to CSBG CARES. The agencies will be required to describe and implement corrective actions for these findings separately from any similar findings in the review of traditional CSBG funding.

10.5. Fiscal Controls and Accounting: As it relates specifically to the CSBG CARES Supplemental, describe any additional provisions to the state's fiscal controls and accounting procedures that will a) permit preparation of the SF-425 Federal fiscal reports (FFR) and b) permit the tracing of expenditures adequate to ensure funds have been used appropriately under the block grant, as required by Block Grant regulations applicable to CSBG at 45 CFR 96.30(a).

The DCED Fiscal Compliance and Monitoring office has created separate funding line codes, specific invoices and fiscal status reports for the CARES funding to allow their reviews and tracking to be separate from those of regular CSBG funding.

10.6. Single Audit Management Decisions: As it relates specifically to the CSBG CARES Supplemental, describe any additional provisions to state procedures for issuing management decisions for eligible entity single audits, as required by Block Grant regulations applicable to CSBG at 45 CFR 75.521.

DCED has not created any additional provisions to the state procedures for issuing management decisions.

10.7. Assurance on Federal Investigations: The state will "permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with Section 678D" of the CSBG Act, as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(7) of the CSBG Act. **Yes**

Section 11: Eligible Entity Tripartite Board

For the purposes of the CARES Act, the Office of Community Services accepts the data submitted by the state in Section 11 of the most recently submitted CSBG State Plan (as dated in Section 1 of this Supplemental State Plan), and seeks no additional information now or at a later date.

12.1. Required Income Eligibility: Provide the income eligibility threshold for services in the state.

200% of the HHS poverty line

12.1a. Describe any changes to the state policy and/or procedures for income eligibility, such as treatment of income and family/household composition as originally described in your FFY2020 CSBG State Plan.

Yes, there are changes to state policy and/or procedures for income eligibility as described below:

The State office has revised the policy and procedures for income eligibility to increase the threshold of eligibility to 200% of the HHS poverty line. We have also modified the verification procedures to allow for agencies to utilize remote methods of documentation and verification for the safety of their staff and clients.

12.1b. The change in the income eligibility threshold will apply to:

CSBG CARES Supplemental AND regular CSBG funds

12.2. Income Eligibility for General/Short Term Services: Describe how the state ensures eligible entities generally verify income eligibility for those services with limited in-take procedures (where individual income verification is not possible or practical). An example of these services is emergency food assistance.

Yes, there are changes to income eligibility verification as described below:

We have adapted the procedures for verifying income to allow agencies to review documentation or certify eligibility remotely to maintain safer operations for staff and clients.

12.3. Community-targeted Services: Describe how the state ensures eligible entities' services target and benefit low-income communities for those services that provide a community-wide benefit (e.g., development of community assets/facilities, building partnerships with other organizations).

No changes were made targeting services that provide community-wide benefit.

Section 13: Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) System

For the purposes of the CARES Act, the Office of Community Services accepts the information on the ROMA system submitted by the state in Section 13 of the most recently submitted CSBG State Plan (as dated in Section 1 of this Supplemental State Plan), and seeks no additional information on the state's ROMA system. Please note that the state may describe state discretionary expenditures or additional training and technical assistance related to documentation and performance management for CSBG CARES Supplemental funding in Sections 7 and 8 of this Supplemental State Plan.

Section 14: CSBG Programmatic Assurances and Information Narrative

(Section 676(b) of the CSBG Act)

14.1. Use of Funds Supporting Local Activities

14.1a. 676(b)(1)(A): Describe how the state will assure "that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

(A) to support activities that are designed to assist low-income families and individuals, including families and individuals receiving assistance under title IV of the Social Security Act, homeless families and individuals, migrant or seasonal farmworkers, and elderly low-income individuals and families, and a description of how such activities will enable the families and individuals--

(i) to remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency (particularly for families and individuals who are attempting to transition off a State program carried out under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act);

(ii) to secure and retain meaningful employment;

(iii) to attain an adequate education with particular attention toward improving literacy skills of the low-income families in the community, which may include family literacy initiatives;

(iv) to make better use of available income;

(v) to obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment;

(vi) to obtain emergency assistance through loans, grants, or other means to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs;

(vii) to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the communities involved, including the development of public and private grassroots partnerships with local law enforcement agencies, local housing authorities, private foundations, and other public and private partners to –

(I) document best practices based on successful grassroots intervention in urban areas, to develop methodologies for widespread replication; and

(II) strengthen and improve relationships with local law enforcement agencies, which may include participation in activities such as neighborhood or community policing efforts;

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below:

Needs of Youth

14.1b. 676(b)(1)(B) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

(B) to address the needs of youth in low-income communities through youth development programs that support the primary role of the family, give priority to the prevention of youth problems and crime, and promote increased community coordination and collaboration in meeting the needs of youth, and support development and expansion of innovative community-based youth development programs that have demonstrated success in preventing or reducing youth crime, such as--

(i) programs for the establishment of violence-free zones that would involve youth development and intervention models (such as models involving youth mediation, youth mentoring, life skills training, job creation, and entrepreneurship programs); and

(ii) after-school child care programs.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Coordination of Other Programs

14.1c. 676(b)(1)(C) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

(C) to make more effective use of, and to coordinate with, other programs related to the purposes of this subtitle (including state welfare reform efforts)

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below:

State Use of Discretionary Funds

14.2. 676(b)(2) Describe “how the state intends to use discretionary funds made available from the remainder of the grant or allotment described in section 675C(b) in accordance with this subtitle, including a description of how the state will support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle.”

Note: Any information provide in previous sections of this application will be considered to be a supplementary description of how the state plans to use funds as necessary for this assurance. Additional information does not need to be provided here.

Eligible Entity Service Delivery System

14.3a. 676(b)(3)(A) Describe “the service delivery system, for services provided or coordinated with funds made available through grants made under 675C(a), targeted to low-income individuals and families in communities within the state;

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Eligible Entity Linkages – Approach to Filling Service Gaps

14.3b. 676(b)(3)(B) Describe “how linkages will be developed to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and follow-up consultations.”

Note: the state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.3b of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Coordination of Eligible Entity Allocation 90 Percent Funds with Public/Private Resources

14.3c. 676(b)(3)(C) Describe how funds made available through grants made under 675C(a) will be coordinated with other public and private resources.”

Note: the state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.7 of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Eligible Entity Innovative Community and Neighborhood Initiatives, Including Fatherhood/Parental Responsibility

14.3d. 676(b)(3)(D) Describe “how the local entity will use the funds [made available under 675C(a)] to support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle, which may include fatherhood initiatives and other initiatives with the goal of strengthening families and encouraging parenting.”

Note: The description above is about eligible entity use of 90 percent funds to support these initiatives. States may also support these types of activities at the local level using state remainder/discretionary funds, allowable under Section 675C(b)(1)(F). In this application, the state indicates funds allocated for these activities under item 7.9(f) of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Eligible Entity Emergency Food and Nutrition Services

14.4. 676(b)(4) Describe how the state will assure “that eligible entities in the state will provide, on an emergency basis, for the provision of such supplies and services, nutritious foods, and related services, as may be necessary to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among low-income individuals.”

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

State and Eligible Entity Coordination/linkages and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Employment and Training Activities

14.5. 676(b)(5) Describe how the state will assure “that the State and eligible entities in the State will coordinate, and establish linkages between, governmental and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of such services, and [describe] how the State and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities, as defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, in the State and in communities with entities providing activities through statewide and local workforce development systems under such Act.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, items 9.1, 9.2, 9.3a, 9.4, 9.4a, and 9.4b of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

State Coordination/Linkages and Low-income Home Energy Assistance

14.6. 676(b)(6) Provide “an assurance that the State will ensure coordination between antipoverty programs in each community in the State, and ensure, where appropriate, that emergency energy crisis intervention programs under title XXVI (relating to low-income home energy assistance) are conducted in such community.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, items 9.2 and 9.5 of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Federal Investigations

14.7. 676(b)(7) Provide “an assurance that the State will permit and cooperate with federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 678D.”

Note: the state addresses this assurance in the Fiscal Controls and Monitoring section, item 10.13 of the regular CSBG State plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Funding Reduction or Termination (Not Applicable to CSBG CARES Supplemental Funds)

14.8. 676(b)(8) Provide “an assurance that any eligible entity in the State that received funding in the previous fiscal year through a community services block grant made under this subtitle will not have its funding terminated under this subtitle, or reduced below the proportional share of funding the entity received in the previous fiscal year unless, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, the State determines that cause exists for such termination or such reduction, subject to review by the Secretary as provided in section 678C(b).”

Note: the state addresses this assurance in the Fiscal Controls and Monitoring section, item 10.7 of the regular CSBG State Plan. This assurance is not applicable to the disaster supplemental because funds must be distributed to eligible entities based on needs directly related to the disaster.

- Check to acknowledge that Section 676(b)(8) is not applicable to the CSBG CARES Supplemental and that funds must be distributed based on the CSBG formula.

Coordination with Faith-based Organizations, Charitable Groups, Community Organizations

14.9. 676(b)(9) Describe how the state will assure “that the State and eligible entities in the state will, to the maximum extent possible, coordinate programs with and form partnerships with other organizations serving low-income residents of the communities and members of the groups served by the State, including religious organizations, charitable groups, and community organizations.”

Note: the state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.6 of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Eligible Entity Tripartite Board Representation

14.10. 676(b)(10) Describe how “the State will require each eligible entity in the State to establish procedures under which a low-income individual, community organization, or religious organization, or representative of low-income individuals that considers its organization, or low-income individuals, to be inadequately represented on the board (or other mechanism) of the eligible entity to petition for adequate representation.”

Note: the state describes this assurance in the Eligible Entity Tripartite Board in Section 11.3 of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Eligible Entity Community Action Plans and Community Needs Assessments

14.11. 676(b)(11) Provide “an assurance that the State will secure from each eligible entity in the State, as a condition to receipt of funding by the entity through a community services block grant made under this subtitle for a program, a community action plan (which shall be submitted to the Secretary, at the request of the Secretary, with the State plan) that includes a community-needs assessment for the community served, which may be coordinated with community-needs assessments conducted for other programs.”

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

State and Eligible Entity Performance Measurement: ROMA or Alternate system

14.12. 676(b)(12) Provide “an assurance that the State and all eligible entities in the State will, not later than fiscal year 2001, participate in the Results Oriented Management and Accountability System, another performance measure system for which the Secretary facilitated development pursuant to section 678E(b), or an alternative system for measuring performance and results that meets the requirements of that section, and [describe] outcome measures to be used to measure eligible entity performance in promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the ROMA section, items 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, and 13.4 of the regular CSBG State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

Validation for CSBG Eligible Entity Programmatic Narrative Sections

14.13. 676(b)(13) Provide “information describing how the State will carry out the assurances described in this section.”

Note: The state provides information for each of the assurances directly in section 14 or in corresponding items throughout the State Plan.

Please select the applicable response:

- No change to standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan.
- Adaptations to the standard assurance in the CSBG State Plan for the CSBG CARES Supplemental are described below.

By checking this box and signing the Cover Sheet SF-424M, the state CSBG authorized official is certifying the assurances set out above.

Section 15: Federal Certifications

The box after each certification must be checked by the State CSBG authorized official.

15.1. Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.2. Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645 (a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central point is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)

(1) By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification set out below.

(2) The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.

(3) For grantees other than individuals, Alternate I applies.

(4) For grantees who are individuals, Alternate II applies.

(5) Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need to be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.

(6) Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).

(7) If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).

(8) Definitions of terms in the Non-procurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

Controlled substance means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

Criminal drug statute means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

Employee means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)

The grantee certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

- (a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
 - (b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about -- (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - (2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
- (c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
- (d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will -- (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
- (e) Notifying the agency in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted -- (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
- (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
- (g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here. Alternate II. (Grantees Who Are Individuals)

- (a) The grantee certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;
- (b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

☒ By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.3. Debarment

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters - - Primary Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

(1) By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

(2) The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.

(3) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

(4) The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(5) The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

(6) The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

(7) The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusive-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

(8) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs.

(9) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a

participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(10) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters - -

Primary Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals: (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

(2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - - Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

(1) By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

(2) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

(3) The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(4) The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

(5) The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared

ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

(6) The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

(7) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs.

(8) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(9) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph five of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - - Lower Tier Covered Transactions

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.4. Environmental Tobacco Smoke

Public Law 103227, Part C Environmental Tobacco Smoke, also known as the Pro Children Act of 1994, requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor routinely owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for provision of health, day care, education, or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residences, facilities funded solely by Medicare or Medicaid funds, and portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1000 per day and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity by signing and submitting this application the applicant/grantee certifies that it will comply with the requirements of the Act.

The applicant/grantee further agrees that it will require the language of this certification be included in any subawards which contain provisions for the children's services and that all subgrantees shall certify accordingly.

By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.