



FEMA

**Grant Programs Directorate Information Bulletin
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MEMORANDUM FOR: All State Administrative Agency Heads
All State Administrative Agency Points of Contact
All Urban Areas Security Initiative Points of Contact
All State Homeland Security Directors
All State Emergency Management Agency Directors

FROM: Brian Kamoie
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Federal Emergency Management Agency

SUBJECT: Guidance for use of FY 2013 and FY 2014 Homeland Security Grant Program Funds for Unaccompanied Children and Families at the Southwest Border

This Information Bulletin (IB) provides Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) grantees located along the Southwest border with guidance on the process to reprioritize and modify existing investments and projects funded under the FY 2013 and FY 2014 HSGP programs to address humanitarian relief for unaccompanied children and families. The States of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas are the only States located along the Southwest border for purposes of this guidance.

The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. No. 114-4) expands allowability for the use of FY 2013 and FY 2014 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), and Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grants to ease the burden on state and local jurisdictions along the Southwest border caused by the 2014 influx of unaccompanied children and families. Grantees and subgrantees of FY 2013 and FY 2014 HSGP awards may use grant funds for costs, or reimbursement of costs, related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied children and families, including immediate care and transportation costs. Only grantees and subgrantees located in Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas may use FY 2013 and FY 2014 HSGP funds for humanitarian relief.

Allowable Costs

In addition to activities already allowable under the FY 2013 and FY 2014 SHSP and UASI, any costs associated with the immediate care or transportation of unaccompanied children and

families are now allowable. These allowable costs include costs for food, water, hygiene products, medicine, medical supplies and temporary housing, as well as costs for transportation to and from temporary housing or to permanent housing. Grantees and subgrantees must continue to comply with all applicable provisions of 44 C.F.R. Part 13 and 2 C.F.R. Part 215, as well as all applicable Cost Principles,¹ and HSGP program guidance and award terms when incurring costs for humanitarian relief of unaccompanied children and families under their FY 2013 and FY 2014 HSGP awards.

Costs for projects or activities that are already in progress that require environmental and historic preservation reviews, including previously installed equipment or previously constructed shelters, are not allowable. FEMA cannot retroactively conduct environmental and historic preservation reviews for projects or activities that are already in progress.

Grantees must report all use of funding for costs associated with humanitarian relief in the next submission of the Biannual Implementation Strategy Report (BSIR) within the Grants Reporting Tool (GRT).

Subgrantees who wish to use FY 2013 and FY 2014 HSGP funding for costs associated with humanitarian relief should contact their State Administrative Agency with any questions concerning the need for modification of their subaward, and for instructions on how to properly charge and account for those costs under their subawards. The grantee is responsible for clearly communicating the approval of any requests to use HSGP funding for humanitarian relief to the subgrantee. Additionally, the grantee is responsible for ensuring that the terms and conditions of any existing subaward agreements, contracts, or other agreements that may require modification as a result of the reprioritization are updated in a manner that is consistent with the applicable provisions of 44 C.F.R. Part 13 or 2 C.F.R. Part 215, and any applicable state or local laws. The grantee is also responsible for clearly communicating any new or updated terms and conditions to the subgrantee or contractor.

Use of grant funds for humanitarian relief for unaccompanied children and families is not justification for extensions to the period of performance for the grants covered under this Information Bulletin.

Any questions regarding this IB may be directed to your FEMA Program Analyst (PA) or the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) at askcsid@dhs.gov or (800) 368-6498.

¹ This includes: 2 C.F.R. Part 225, "Cost Principles for State and Local and Indian Tribal Governments"; 2 C.F.R. Part 230 "Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations"; and 2 C.F.R. Part 220, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," as applicable.