Homeless Emergency Aid Program: 5% Homeless Youth Set-Aside ($25 million)

The Homeless Emergency Aid Program was established on June 27, 2018 with the passage of Senate Bill 850. The program was established to provide localities with $500 million in one-time funding to address homelessness. The program is administered by the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council within the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

**Eligible Applicants**
The applicant to the Homeless Emergency Aid Program is an “administrative entity,” which is a local government agency or nonprofit that has previously administered federal Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care funds. To find the list of administrative entities in California, follow this [LINK].

To be eligible, the jurisdictions within the administrative entity must have declared a shelter crisis. There is a waiver process for jurisdictions that have not done so. Applicants within the administrative entity are required to collaborate in the development of the application.

**Available Funding**
The Homeless Emergency Aid Program is granting a total of $500 million, which consists of three categories of funding:

1. $250 million available based on total number of homeless individuals based on the 2017 point-in-time count.
2. $100 million available based on the administrative entity’s share of the total homeless population based on the 2017 point-in-time count.
3. $150 million available to cities with a population of 330,000 or more as of January 1, 2018 based on the proportionate share of the homeless population.

**Application Process**
Applications are due on or before December 31, 2018 and awards will be made on a continuous basis no later than January 31, 2019. If funding remains, applications for a second round of awards are due to the agency by April 30, 2019. Second-round awards may be made by May 31, 2019. If there are remaining funds as of June 15, 2019, the Department of Finance will identify a methodology to distribute or the funds will revert to the state General Fund.

**Allowable Uses**
- One-time uses that address homelessness, including but not limited to prevention, criminal justice diversion program to homeless individuals with mental health need and emergency aid.
- 5% limit on use of the funds for administrative costs
- No less than 5% of the funding are required to be used to establish or expand services meeting the needs of homeless youth or youth at risk of homelessness.

**Reporting Requirements**
- Recipients are required to submit a report by January 1, 2020 on the number of homeless individuals served and progress towards state and local homelessness goals.
- 50% of the program funds are required to be contractually obligated by January 1, 2020; 100% of the program funds are required to be contractually obligated by June 30, 2021.
- Any funds not expended by that date must be revert to the General Fund.
- The agency may monitor activities to ensure compliance; and request repayment of funds for failure to comply with program requirements.