An ESG jurisdiction is a State, metropolitan city or urban county that is eligible to receive a FY 95 grant under the Emergency Shelter Grants Program, as described in 24 CFR 576.43.

(b) Homeless Provider Organizations. An organization, including nonprofits and others, that delivers housing search assistance and other services to

homeless persons and families. (c) Immediately Ready for Permanent Housing.

A family, that prior to receipt of rental assistance under this NOFA, has received an intensive needs assessment to determine if the family is immediately ready for permanent housing. Specifically, a family that is immediately ready for permanent housing has:

(i) needs that were appropriately addressed through a transitional housing program; or

(ii) needs that can be addressed by receiving appropriate services and/or treatment in permanent housing; and

(iii) the life skills needed to succeed in the rental assistance program.

(3) ESG Grantee Responsibilities

The ESG grantee is responsible for initiating the community-wide process and forming the partnership with the HA as well as identifying and involving homeless provider organizations. The ESG grantee is responsible for coordinating the joint application with the HA. The ESG grantee as part of the ongoing partnership is responsible for ensuring that eligible homeless participants are being served in the program. The ESG grantee is also responsible for ensuring that housing search assistance and stabilization services are being provided by the homeless provider organizations.

(4) Housing Agency Responsibilities

HAs are responsible for administering the rental voucher program in accordance with HUD regulations and requirements, including:

(a) conducting initial and periodic Housing Quality Standards inspections and contracting with landlords;

(b) reviewing the Section 8 waiting list to determine if there are any individuals already on the Section 8 waiting list who may be eligible for the Section 8 set-aside for Homeless Families and referring them to homeless provider organizations;

(c) after proper verification of Section 8 eligibility of individuals referred by the homeless provider organization, adding individuals to the Section 8 waiting list and issuing rental vouchers or certificates;

(d) amending its administrative plan and equal opportunity housing plan to provide for a preference for Homeless Families referred by homeless provider organizations that meet the "immediately ready for permanent housing" requirement to participate in the Section 8 set-aside for Homeless Families in a number equal to the number of rental vouchers and certificates provided under this subprogram for the area;

(e) providing technical assistance to homeless provider organizations and others in understanding and utilizing this Section 8 set-aside; and

(f) maintaining records and providing information for evaluation purposes, as required by HUD.

(5) Homeless Provider Organization Responsibilities

The homeless provider is responsible for identifying and referring eligible families that are immediately ready for permanent housing and for providing housing counseling and the family stabilization services. HUD does not define those services in this NOFA although the services should be adequate to meet the needs of the families during their search for permanent housing and the ensuing adjustment period after moving into permanent housing. These services may include move-in assistance, housing counseling, services to help the family adjust to new surroundings and connecting to community-based services and/or treatment, and any other services needed to allow the family to remain in permanent housing.

(C) Allocation Amounts for Homeless Families Subprogram

The Department will make available approximately \$411 million in budget authority to support an estimated 12,000 rental vouchers and certificates. The Department has decided to allocate the rental assistance budget authority for the Homeless Families subprogram to each jurisdiction that is eligible to receive an Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program allocation for FY 95. Attachment 4 to this NOFA lists the ESG jurisdictions and the allocation of budget authority for use in each jurisdiction based on the FY 95 ESG formula. The ESG formula was modified to ensure that 75 percent of the budget authority is allocated for use in ESG metropolitan cities and urban counties and 25 percent of the budget authority is allocated for use by states in other jurisdictions not receiving a direct formula allocation under this NOFA.

(D) Application Submission Requirements for Homeless Families Subprogram

The HA, in conjunction with the ESG jurisdiction, must submit the items identified in Section I(D) of the NOFA, Application Submission Requirements—General, and must include the descriptions required by this section and explained in further detail in the Application Selection section.

(1) Joint Application

HUD will make a set-aside of rental assistance budget authority for Homeless Families only if there is a joint application by the housing agency (HA) and the ESG jurisdiction that describes the partnership among the HA, the ESG jurisdiction and homeless provider organizations and describes the community-wide process for involving homeless provider organizations in the program. The application must demonstrate evidence of an agreement between the ESG jurisdiction and the HA(s) spelling out the responsibilities of the respective parties to achieve the objective of this NOFA. Homeless provider organizations help the ESG jurisdiction identify and refer homeless families to the HA and provide needed housing counseling and supportive services. At the time of application, participating homeless provider organizations may be identified, but this is not required. Any HA that has the legal authority to operate a rental assistance program within the ESG jurisdiction may submit, in conjunction with the ESG jurisdiction, an application in order to receive the available rental vouchers or certificates.

(2) Application Content

Each ESG jurisdiction must initiate, as a part of the application preparation, a community-wide process to involve homeless provider organizations in the development and implementation of the set-aside program. Each applicant must: (a) Describe the Community-wide

Process.

Describe the community-wide process used to involve homeless provider organizations in the planning and implementation of the rental assistance program. The application must also describe how participating homeless provider organizations, that will enter into agreements to provide services, have been or will be identified through a request for proposals process or other form of selection.

(b) Identify Eligible Homeless Families.

The method that will be used to identify and refer to the HA homeless