

Summary of the HOME – ARP Allocation Plan (Draft)

The City of Boston received **\$21.6 million** in HOME Investment Partnership Program – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) funds intended to increase housing stability by assisting individuals, households, or other vulnerable populations who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

HOME-ARP funds must be spent by September 2030 and can be used for affordable rental housing, tenant-based rental assistance, supportive services, and to purchase or develop non-congregate shelter. Up to 15 percent can be used for administration and planning. And, up to 5 percent of the grant can be used for operating costs and capacity building for non-profit organizations such as homeless providers.

HOME-ARP funds must be used to benefit these qualifying populations (QPs):

1. homeless,
2. at risk of homelessness,
3. fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;
4. part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent a family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability; or
5. Veterans and families that include a Veteran family member.

Complete requirements for the HOME-ARP program are available on the [HUD Exchange](#).

MOH held a series of meetings and focus groups to understand the current needs of the qualified populations for the HOME-ARP funding; in particular, those who have experienced homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

Based on those consultations and research data, the most urgent need among the Qualifying Populations in Boston is for safe, affordable, and sustainable housing, especially for the 3,945 Boston residents who do not have a place to call home.

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In addition, 30 percent of Boston’s renter households are severely housing cost burdened, paying more than 50 percent of their income on rent, and there are long waitlists for public housing and subsidized units. Consultations with organizations serving the Qualified Populations requested that HOME-ARP funds also support housing search and support services to help people find homes and to remain stably housed. Given those needs, the Mayor’s Office of Housing (MOH) proposes to dedicate 74 percent of the funds to creating affordable rentals, in the form of permanent supportive housing; 14 percent of the grant funds to be set aside for supportive services and 12 percent for non-profit capacity building and MOH administration and planning.

Proposed HOME-ARP Budget (August 2022)			
Eligible Activities	Funding Amount	% of the Grant	Service Levels
Supportive Services	\$3,000,000	13.9%	To be determined
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$0	0%	N/A
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$7,000,000	32.4%	To be determined
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$9,000,000	41.7%	200 New Units
Non-Profit Operating	\$0	0%	N/A
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$1,000,000	4.6%	
Administration and Planning	\$ 1,597,797	7.4%	
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 21,597,797		

The draft HOME-ARP Plan is posted from **8/1/22 to 8/18/22** for public comment. Comments are encouraged and can be submitted by emailing mohcomments@boston.gov

At the end of the comment period, MOH will submit the Plan to HUD for review and approval. This draft HOME-ARP Plan is posted on the Mayor’s Office of Housing’s [Hearing and Public Comment webpage](#).