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State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)

Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1 | March 12, 2024

Welcome to your second edition of the SLFRF Newsletter, dedicated to the needs of SLFRF recipients. In this newsletter, you'll find U.S. government leaders connecting directly with local leaders on their SLFRF-related efforts, key updates on the April 30 reporting deadline, and an update to the SLFRF frequently asked questions (FAQs).

Please forward this newsletter to someone you know who would benefit from receiving this newsletter, and let them know to subscribe [here](#).

PRESIDENT BIDEN, SECRETARY YELLEN VISIT LOCAL LEADERS



During a recent tour highlighting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's ARPA and SLFRF-funded community improvements, President Biden delivered coffee and pastries to a new fire training academy in Allentown, Pennsylvania built using more than \$2.3 million of their SLFRF award.



In her [remarks](#) to local leaders in January, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen notes that “as of last month, state and local government employment has fully recovered—in less than half the time it took in the Great Recession. And state and local government real output growth recovered within only six quarters—also less than half the time.” She also emphasized that “had the Administration’s response been much smaller, less flexible, less supportive of cities and states, we might have seen the same outcomes that we saw after the Global Financial Crisis.”

KEY UPDATES

Top Items for this Newsletter:

1. Treasury’s submission portal will be updated with a question asking recipients about their readiness for program close out (more on this below).
2. [The new SLFRF FAQs](#) update the existing FAQs to reflect common inquiries regarding program updates, including guidance for how to use funds for affordable housing projects, premium pay, and new eligible uses.
3. The [Non-Entitlement Units of Local Government Webinar](#) is now available, which includes a reporting portal demonstration and other program and compliance information.
4. The [NEU Quick Reference Guide](#) offers resources that may assist NEU recipients.
5. SLFRF Explainer videos assist with a variety of useful topics, including [reporting troubleshooting](#), [reporting resources](#), [user roles](#), [ID.me](#), and an [orientation for new users](#). The orientation is also helpful in walking through some of the recent updates to the SLFRF website.

RECENT NEWS

- ***Note the Close Out Question in your Upcoming Reporting Portal Submission***

The Treasury Portal opens for the Project & Expenditure (P&E) Reports on April 1, 2024, and will remain open until April 30, 2024. For some recipients, whose total SLFRF award is equal to total SLFRF expenditures, there will be a close out question available. This question will read “Have you spent your full SLFRF award and are ready to close out the award? If you are ready to close out, please be aware that this is not your final report. Included in forthcoming guidance will be information on how to close out your SLFRF award, including completion of the final report.” Recipients should respond accordingly and await additional guidance from Treasury regarding close out procedures. Please note that responding to this question does not initiate the close out process; rather it will help Treasury communicate more directly with recipients as we design and implement the close out process.

- ***Use your SLFRF Award Funds for Affordable Housing Projects***

Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing-related uses. On March 5, Treasury updated [SLFRF FAQ 2.14](#) to provide additional flexibility and promote administrability in the use of these funds. Specifically, this update provides that if a housing project is eligible to be funded (or in some cases are funded) under one of more than a dozen specified federal housing programs, it is a presumptively eligible use of SLFRF funds. This includes projects financed with loans purchased by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac under certain affordable and workforce housing programs.

In addition, Treasury clarified that it is presumptively eligible to use SLFRF funds for the development, repair, or operation of any affordable rental housing unit if the unit has a limited maximum income of 120% area median income (AMI). The AMI limit may be imposed through a covenant, land use restriction agreement, or other enforceable legal requirement, for a period of at least 20 years.

Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Wally Adeyemo recently released a [blog post](#) highlighting this change and describing how it relates to the Treasury Department’s other actions to increase the supply of affordable housing. These include clarifying how states, U.S. territories, and local governments which received Emergency Rental Assistance funds may use those resources to support the creation of new affordable housing.

Treasury has previously shared several related program resources, including [previous clarifications on affordable housing-related uses](#) and a [“How-To Guide”](#) on how to support affordable housing investments. Earlier in 2023, Treasury released a [fact sheet](#) highlighting examples of affordable housing investments across the country made using SLFRF funds.

2024 SLFRF ROADMAP TO REPORTING

Start preparing for the April 30, 2024 reporting deadline by referring to the 2024 SLFRF Roadmap to Reporting infographic below. This resource provides a week-by-week breakdown of tasks related to reporting, along with a few resources to get you started.

Roadmap to Reporting 2024

Week 1 | Week of March 11

Ensure you can log into Treasury's portal.

Week 2 | Week of March 18

Ensure User Roles are assigned to the correct point of contact.

Week 3 | Week of March 25

Troubleshoot issues with accessing the portal or user roles.

Troubleshoot issues with accessing the portal or user roles.

Did Your Government Spend Funds Under the Revenue Loss Category, Including by Taking the Standard Allowance?

YES

You can report how your government utilized revenue loss funds, including the standard allowance of up to \$10 million, with one project under expenditure category 6.1. Include as much detail as possible.

NOTE: Treasury requests that descriptions provide explanations that details what type of specific eligible government services are being supported with the funds.

NO

Week 4: Week of April 1

Gather project information from external partners.

Week 5: Week of April 8

Internally collect financial information related to projects.

Week 6: Week of April 15

Input data into Treasury's portal for all projects.

Week 7: Week of April 22

Review inputted information and submit the report.

Treasury Reporting Portal Opens April 1, 2024

Tier 1, 2, and 3-2024 Q1 Project and Expenditure Report Due
Tier 4 and Tier 5-2024 Annual Project and Expenditure

Is This Your First Time Filing a Quarterly or Annual SLFRF Report in the Treasury Portal?

Listed below are key resources to help you prepare the report.

Getting Started – What Do I Do?

- > [Recipient Compliance and Reporting Guidance Responsibilities](#) Webpage
- > Register to use Login.gov on Treasury's portal at <https://portal.treasury.gov/compliance/s> (We recommend NEUs use Login.gov)
 - > [SLFRF Login.gov Account Explainer Video](#)
- > Register to use ID.me on Treasury's portal at <https://portal.treasury.gov/cares/>
 - > [SLFRF ID.me Account Explainer Video](#)
- > [SLFRF Explainer Video: New Administrator to the SLFRF Program](#)

Guides

- > [Project and Expenditure Report User Guide](#)
- > [20-minute webinar on Project and Expenditure reporting](#)
- > [Please also refer to our FAQs and Self-Service Resources.](#)

ASK THE ANSWER TEAM

- When does the reporting portal open for the April 30, 2024 reporting deadline?

The Treasury Portal opens for the P&E Reports on April 1, 2024, and will remain open until April 30, 2024. If you received a notice of noncompliance for not submitting your P&E Report, the Treasury Portal remains open for your report submissions. The reporting period is from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 for Annual reporters and January 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024 for Quarterly reporters. For assistance in determining your reporting cadence, refer to the list of recipient reporting tiers on the Reporting and Compliance webpage.

- ***We've already spent and reported our funds. Is the report still required?***

Recipients are required to continue to submit reports to Treasury as outlined in the [SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#). Please refer to the section titled "Reporting Guidance" starting on page 16 for your P&E responsibilities and note the reporting timeline on pages 20-21. Treasury will provide further closeout instructions that will provide information to recipients on how to complete closeout and provide final report information.

- ***Are recipients required to send interest earned on SLFRF payments to Treasury?***

Among other things, recipients may use interest earned to defray the program's administrative expenses. For a more information, see Section 10 "Miscellaneous" of the [SLFRF Frequently Asked Questions](#).

- ***How do I access my government's reporting portal?***

Register to use Login.gov on Treasury's portal at Treasury.gov/Compliance OR ID.me at Portal.Treasury.gov/CARES/. Scroll to the "Accessing Treasury's Portal" section for login instructions to access the Treasury Portal using Login.gov or ID.me. If you still have questions about accessing Treasury's submission portal, see the SLFRF explainer videos for [Login.gov](#) or [ID.me](#).

Don't see your question here? Click here to visit the [SLFRF Self-Service Resources](#) and here to access the [SLFRF Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more common questions from recipients.

CONNECT WITH US

Please share SLFRF news by forwarding this newsletter to others!

Subscribe to the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Newsletter by signing up [here](#).

If you require additional assistance, please reach out to us by email:

For questions about the Treasury Portal or for technical support, please email covidreliefitsupport@treasury.gov.

For general questions about the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, please email SLFRF@treasury.gov.

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Questions? [Contact Us](#)