

## YHDP and COVID-19 Q&As

April 16, 2020

1. I am a round 1 Community and will be unable to expend all of my funds prior to grant expiration because of the impact of COVID-19. Can I extend my grant?
  - a. Yes, you may request to extend your YHDP grant if you are unable to expend all of your funds because of COVID-19. Please keep in mind that this will impact the day that the renewal grant from the YHDP grant, if applicable, will start.
2. I am a round 3 YHDP community. Can I request an extension to the due date for the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan (CCP)?
  - a. Yes, SNAPS is giving extensions for the due date of the CCP deadline of April 29, 2020 to communities who request an extension. Please contact your YHDP Desk Officer to request the extension. CCPs must be approved by SNAPS before entering into non-planning project grant agreements for funded by YHDP funds.
3. I am a round 3 YHDP community and am concerned with our community's ability to conduct a local competition during the COVID-19 crisis. Can my community receive an extension to the July 1, 2020 due date for project applications?
  - a. Yes, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, signed by the President on March 27, 2020, extends the obligation deadline for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program projects until September 30, 2021. This means that communities do not need to have applications in to SNAPS by July 1, 2020. Communities that are considering submitting applications later than July 1, 2020 should speak with their YHDP desk officer to understand the implications of submitting applications at a later date.
4. I am unable to get the required signatures for the CCP- do I have options?
  - a. Yes, there are several options. SNAPS will accept digital signatures from the required stakeholders. Alternatively, SNAPS will grant an extension for the due date of the CCP to give the community additional time to obtain the required signatures (either physical or digital). Please contact your YHDP Desk Officer if you are seeking an extension to the CCP deadline.
5. I have identified supportive services that would be helpful to help my community address the COVID-19 crisis, but I did not list the activities in my YHDP application. Am I able to provide these services?
  - a. If the project already has a Supportive Services budget line item, communities can use the funds for any eligible activities under 24 CFR 578.53, even if those activities are not specified in the project application. Some potentially helpful activities are listed in the [Using CoC Program Funds for Infectious Disease resource](#).

Recipients may shift up to 10% of their total project budget between budget line items. If recipients would like to shift more than 10% of their total project budget or would like to establish a new budget line item within an existing project, please contact your YHDP desk officer (YHDP Round 1 communities, please contact your Field Office representative).

6. Members of the Youth Action Board in my community are unable to meet/communicate because of challenges with internet connectivity (e.g. office buildings are closed, no internet in home, etc.) and phone access.
  - a. Communities may use planning project funds to pay for internet connectivity or phone access for YAB members as long as there is no free or public option available for YAB members to participate in YAB activities. Please note that a number of communities are offering free internet access for some individuals during the COVID-19 crisis. It may be worth exploring if this is happening in your community.
7. Our organization can no longer directly provide meals or groceries to youth, as allowed by 24 CFR 578.53(e)(7). Can I provide gift cards to participants in YHDP projects to purchase food?
  - a. Recipients may provide gift cards to participants in YHDP projects to purchase food; however, the recipient must retain documentation of the actual cost of food purchased. For instance, if a recipient provides a program participant with a \$10 gift card for groceries and the program participant provides a receipt for \$7 worth of food, the recipient can only seek reimbursement for \$7 as documented by the receipt provided. Recipients can request that participants send an electronic copy of the receipt (picture or scanned) in order to maintain social distancing.