

Enhanced Emergency Shelter Request for Services (RFS)

Questions and Answers

Q What is an enhanced emergency shelter?

A An enhanced emergency shelter is a temporary housing facility designed to provide improved safety, comfort, and services to individuals and families experiencing episodic or chronic homelessness.

Features of enhanced emergency shelters include 24-hour access seven days per week, three daily meals, individualized case planning, access to income support, health care services, addictions supports, mental health services, and support to transition to suitable longer-term housing based on individual needs.

Q Where will the enhanced emergency shelters be located?

A Under the RFS, we are providing funding for one shelter in Regina (15 to 25 spaces) and two shelters in Saskatoon (approximately 30 spaces each). When you apply, you will select the location(s) you are interested in.

Q Who can apply to the RFS?

A SHC will consider proposals from both non-profit community-based organizations (CBOs) and for-profit organizations. Organizations must:

- have experience providing services to clients experiencing chronic or episodic homelessness;
- be incorporated or eligible for incorporation in the Province of Saskatchewan; and
- be in good financial standing with SHC.

Q What is the term of the agreement? Will it be extended?

A The initial agreement will run for a four-month period (December 2023 to March 2024). There will be an option to renew the agreement on an annual basis, subject to continued funding availability.

Q How will funding be provided to organizations?

A Organizations will receive block funding. Payments will be issued monthly on or near the 1st of the month until the end of the agreement.

Q Will funding be decreased based on bed use?

A No, funding will not decrease; however, organizations will be expected to ensure beds are used and create a process to accept referrals for bed spaces from other agencies.

Q Is my organization eligible if we receive funding from other sources?

A Your organization can receive funding from other sources, such as Reaching Home or fundraising efforts, to support the operation of shelter spaces; however, the beds under this agreement must be new spaces not currently funded through Ministry agreements.

Q Can we partner with other agencies to provide support services?

A Yes, we encourage you to partner with other agencies that provide services that your agency does not provide. You can refer your residents to agencies or arrange to have services provided onsite. Workers from Income Assistance, and in some cases Saskatchewan Health Authority, will also be available to provide services at the shelter.

Q Do we need to supply furniture and other items?

A Yes, as part of the agreement organizations must supply furniture, meals, and other items required for operation.

Q Will we be required to pay rent and utilities as part of the lease?

A The cost of the monthly lease will be negotiated with the property owner. Organizations will be required to pay utilities.

Q Will we be responsible for property maintenance as part of the lease?

A Yes, organizations will be responsible for general maintenance of the property. Details will be negotiated with the property owner.

Q Where will the shelter property be located?

A We are currently working collaboratively with municipalities to identify suitable properties. Once a property has been identified, we will notify proponents.

Q Our organization has a location where we could deliver this service. Do we need to lease the provided location?

A If you have a location where you could deliver an enhanced emergency shelter, please contact Saskatchewan Housing Corporation to discuss options.