



**FEMA**

August 5, 2020

Deputy Commissioner Anne Bink  
Alternate Governor's Authorized Representative  
New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services  
1220 Washington Avenue  
Building 7A, Floor 4  
Albany, New York 12242

RE: FEMA-4480-DR-NY  
New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services  
Time Extension Request  
Non-Congregate Sheltering  
Log ID 16036

Dear Deputy Commissioner Bink:

This letter is in response to New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services' (DHSES) July 24, 2020 time extension request for the use of non-congregate sheltering in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic under major disaster declaration FEMA-4480-DR-NY through October 23, 2020. FEMA has reviewed DHSES's request and is conditionally approving a time extension for the use of non-congregate sheltering and the reimbursement of reasonable costs for certain wrap around services through August 24, 2020. FEMA is limiting its approval to a 30-day extension because it is working with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to transition the responsibility of funding non-congregate sheltering programs for individuals experiencing homelessness to HUD.

On June 22, 2020, FEMA approved DHSES's time extension request for the use of non-congregate sheltering from May 10, 2020, through July 25, 2020. In its approval, FEMA stated future time extension requests must include detailed justification for the continuing need for emergency non-congregate sheltering and updated summary information.

In its current request, DHSES states that a further time extension is necessary because "the ability to use non-congregate sheltering for individuals unable to shelter at home will remove a significant impediment to the success of the [contact tracing] program and sustained efforts to mitigate spread." DHSES also provided an updated summary of the State's non-congregate sheltering operations.

Based on a review of DHSES's request and the information provided, FEMA approves the request for a time extension. DHSES must obtain FEMA approval for any additional time

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extensions, which should include a detailed justification for the continuing need for emergency non-congregate sheltering and updated summary information.

The information provided in the summary allows FEMA limited visibility on the populations served and services provided. Please note, FEMA's approval of non-congregate sheltering is conditional, because without a full description of the programs and detailed information from each agency's database, FEMA cannot commit to fully funding each program.

Additionally, please see the attached *Federal Funding Priority Order for Non-Congregate Shelter During COVID-19*, addressing funding for non-congregate sheltering for individuals experiencing homelessness. If you are a HUD Recipient, FEMA encourages you to reach out to HUD to start the grant application process for non-congregate sheltering for individuals experiencing homelessness in order to effectively transition to HUD funding.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact Recovery Division Director Claude Hyacinthe at [Claude.Hyacinthe@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Claude.Hyacinthe@fema.dhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Thomas Von Essen  
Regional Administrator  
FEMA Region II

Attachment: *Federal Funding Priority Order for Non-Congregate Shelter During COVID-19*