

201- ESG SHELTER AND HOUSING STANDARDS

Certification of Compliance

All emergency shelters projects must comply with the standards in §576.403(b). Emergency shelter projects currently funded with DCA ESG funds in 2016-2018 should have already met these requirements if DCA staff completed an HQS inspection of the funded emergency shelter in the current grant year.

§ 576.403 Shelter and housing standards

(b) Minimum standards for emergency shelters facilities. Any building for which Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds are used must meet state or local government safety and sanitation standards, as applicable, and the following minimum safety, sanitation, and privacy standards. Any emergency shelter that receives assistance for shelter operations must meet the following minimum safety, sanitation, and privacy standards. The recipient (DCA) may also establish standards that exceed or add to these minimum standards.

(1) Structure and materials. The shelter building must be structurally sound to protect residents from the elements and not pose any threat to health and safety of the residents. Any renovation (including major rehabilitation and conversion) carried out with ESG assistance must use Energy Star and WaterSense products and appliances.

(2) Access. The shelter must be accessible in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. 794) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8; the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 *et seq.*) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100; and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12131 *et seq.*) and 28 CFR part 35; where applicable.

(3) Space and security. Except where the shelter is intended for day use only, the shelter must provide each program participant in the shelter with an acceptable place to sleep and adequate space and security for themselves and their belongings.

(4) Interior air quality. Each room or space within the shelter must have a natural or mechanical means of ventilation. The interior air must be free of pollutants at a level that might threaten or harm the health of residents.

(5) Water supply. The shelter's water supply must be free of contamination.

(6) Sanitary facilities. Each program participant in the shelter must have access to sanitary facilities that are in proper operating condition, are private, and are adequate for personal cleanliness and the disposal of human waste.

(7) Thermal environment. The shelter must have any necessary heating/cooling facilities in proper operating condition.

(8) Illumination and electricity. The shelter must have adequate natural or artificial illumination to permit normal indoor activities and support health and safety. There must be sufficient electrical sources to permit the safe use of electrical appliances in the shelter.

(9) Food preparation. Food preparation areas, if any, must contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare, and serve food in a safe and sanitary manner.

(10) Sanitary conditions. The shelter must be maintained in a sanitary condition.

(11) Fire safety. There must be at least one working smoke detector in each occupied unit of the shelter. Where possible, smoke detectors must be located near sleeping areas. The fire alarm system must be designed for hearing-impaired residents. All public areas of the shelter must have at least

