# Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency

OMB Control Number: 1660-0125 Expiration Date: 6/30/2024

#### PAPERWORK BURDEN DISCLOSURE NOTICE

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### SHSP and UASI Pass-Through Requirements

### **Timing and Amount**

The SAA must pass-through at least 80% of the funds awarded under SHSP and UASI to the above-defined local or tribal units of government within 45 calendar days of receipt of the funds. "Receipt of the funds" occurs either when the SAA accepts the award or 15 calendar days after the SAA receives notice of the award, whichever is earlier.

SAAs are sent notification of HSGP awards via the GPD's ND Grants system. If an SAA accepts its award within 15 calendar days of receiving notice of the award in the ND Grants system, the 45 calendar days pass-through period will start on the date the SAA accepted the award. Should an SAA not accept the HSGP award within 15 calendar days of receiving notice of the award in the ND Grants system, the 45 calendar days pass-through period will begin 15 calendar days after the award notification is sent to the SAA via the ND Grants system.

It is important to note that the period of performance start date does not directly affect the start of the 45 calendar days pass-through period. For example, an SAA may receive notice of the HSGP award on August 25, 2023, while the period of performance dates for that award September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2026. In this example, the 45-day pass-through period will begin on the date the SAA accepts the HSGP award or September 9, 2023 (15 calendar days after the SAA was notified of the award), whichever date occurs first. The period of performance start date of September 1, 2023 would not affect the timing of meeting the 45-calendar day pass-through requirement.

## **Other SHSP and UASI Pass-Through Requirements**

The signatory authority of the SAA must certify in writing to DHS/FEMA that pass-through requirements have been met. **A letter of intent (or equivalent) to distribute funds is not considered sufficient.** A letter of intent is not a firm commitment and if issued before FEMA makes the award, then a letter of intent is also not unconditional since it is inherently conditioned on receipt of funds.

The pass-through requirement does not apply to SHSP awards made to the District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. **The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is required to comply with the pass-through requirement**, and its SAA must also obligate at least 80% of the funds to local units of government within 45 calendar days of receipt of the funds.

Under SHSP, the SAA may retain more than 20% of funding for expenditures made by the state on behalf of the local unit(s) of government, such as expenditures by the state in order to pass through goods or services to local unit(s) of government in lieu of cash. This may occur only with the written consent, such as a Memorandum of Understanding, between the SAA and the local unit(s) of government. Separate written consent is necessary for each local unit of government in which more than 20% of funding is retained on their behalf by the state. The written consent must specify the amount of funds to be retained and the intended use of funds, including whether any goods or services will be passed through in lieu of cash. It must also be signed by authorized representatives of both the state and the local unit of government.

States shall review their written consent agreements yearly and ensure that they are still valid. If a written consent agreement is already in place from previous fiscal years, DHS/FEMA will continue to recognize it for FY 2023, unless the written consent review indicates the local government is no longer in agreement. If modifications to the existing agreement are necessary, the SAA should contact their assigned FEMA HQ Preparedness Officer.

However, even if a written consent agreement is in place from previous fiscal years, the SAA must still initially carry out the pass-through documentation for its FY 2023 award and comply with the four pass-through criteria described above before the written consent agreement can take effect for purposes of the FY 2023 funding.