



# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

January 11, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
And the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

## REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to budget and expend prior year carryforward funds in the amount of \$1,253,750 in Fiscal Year 2022 to fund COVID-19 homeowner and homeownership hardships upon approvals of the Fiscal Committee of the General Court and Governor and Executive Council through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of Homeowner Assistance Fund established under Section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021) (HAF). **100% Federal Funds.**

Funds are to be budgeted in account #01-002-002-020210-2428, GOFERR, Homeowners Assistance Fund, as follows:

Class & Object	Class Title	FY 2022 Current Adjusted Authorized	FY 2022 Requested Action	FY 2022 Revised Adjusted Authorized
<b>Expenditures</b>				
040-501587	Indirect Costs	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$3,000	\$1,250	\$4,250
072-500575	Grants Federal	\$3,000,000	\$1,250,000	\$4,250,000
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,005,500</b>	<b>\$1,253,750</b>	<b>\$4,259,250</b>
<b>Revenue</b>				
000-400338	Federal Funds	\$3,005,500	\$1,253,750	\$4,259,250
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$3,005,500</b>	<b>\$1,253,750</b>	<b>\$4,259,250</b>

## EXPLANATION

The GOFERR will use these ARP - HAF funds to enter a grant with the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHF A) for \$1,250,000 for administration and planning cost pursuant to Section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021) (hereinafter ARPA) Homeowner Assistance Fund.

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Per the US Treasury funding for this program, immediate work is required on the development and submission of a plan for Homeowners Assistance Fund (HAF) funding in order to receive payment beyond the initial 10% payment (\$5,000,000, which NH Treasury has received). The HAF plan, due June 30, 2021 absent an extension, must describe in detail the needs of homeowners within NH, the design of each program that NH proposes to implement using HAF funds, performance goals, and information regarding NH's readiness to implement the programs. This aggressive timeline required NHHFA to engage in work prior to Governor and Council review and approval. Once the US Treasury approves New Hampshire's plan and releases additional funding, GOFERR will seek approval of an amendment to the subaward grant agreement.

The New Hampshire Homeowner Assistance Program will mitigate financial hardships suffered by New Hampshire residents associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to eligible entities for the purpose of preventing homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosures, loss of utilities or home energy services, and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship after January 21, 2020, through qualified expenses related to mortgages and housing. The grant funds must be used for allowable expenses incurred by NHHFA through September 30, 2025, unless an extension is allowed and granted by GOFERR in writing.

The New Hampshire Homeowner Assistance Program (NHHAP) will be administered by New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, in collaboration with GOFERR. NHHFA will be responsible for the planning, design and implementation of the homeowner assistance program to mitigate financial hardships suffered by New Hampshire residents associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to eligible entities for the purpose of preventing homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosures, loss of utilities or home energy services, and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship after January 21, 2020, through qualified expenses related to mortgages and housing, that have not been, and are not anticipated to be, reimbursed from other federal, state or local assistance or COVID-19 relief from any other source.

NHHFA may contract with sub-grantees to provide consulting services for program design and other technical assistance, and to accept and process applications and payments for the program. The subgrantees selected by NHHFA shall use the funding only to address New Hampshire Homeowner Assistance Program allowable costs incurred between June 1, 2021 and September 30, 2025, as allowed under the grant agreement.

The following appropriation authorities are being requested:

- Class 040 – Indirect Costs – Appropriations needed to pay required SWCAP or indirect cost fees
- Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside – Appropriations needed to pay required audit fees
- Class 072 – Grants Federal – Appropriations necessary to support rental assistance program(s)

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell  
Executive Director, GOFERR

1 Eagle Square, Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
Website: <http://www.goferr.nh.gov/> • Email: [info@goferrnh.gov](mailto:info@goferrnh.gov)  
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964