Question #1: The eligibility requirements use the phrase “one or more” which sounds like you only need one of the 4 scenarios to get them approved.  However, when we talked with SLC about ERAP funds they said that the US Treasury prohibits anyone from receiving more than 18 months of assistance.  Are these funds using the same guidelines?

Yes, we are using the same guidelines as the Treasury and Salt Lake City. An individual cannot receive more than 18 months of assistance.

Question #2: Are you providing access to the state portal that tracks who received ERAP funding in the past?

Yes, we will provide access to the State portal.

Question #3: With the tracking of case management, are we able to use our own collection techniques or do you require the use of a county approved tracking?  Does this involve SAMMI?

Agencies can use their own collection techniques and or software to track case management.

Question #4: Is there a maximum number of rent payments that can be made or a maximum amount per household?

This will depend on the program and budget outline submitted by the agency and the number of households expected to be served. Previous programs that have utilized this funding used an average of 3-6 months of rental assistance.

Question #5: Can the funds be used for legal expenses, collection agencies, etc?

Eligible expenses are as follows:

* Rent - including fees, amenities, and utilities included in the lease agreement plus any
* reasonable fees
* Rent arrears
* Security deposits Utilities, internet, and home energy costs
* Utilities, internet, and home energy cost arrears - including late fees, shut off, and reinstatement fees

Question #6: Can clients self-certify that they were affected by COVID?  Or is specific documentation required per applicant?

Clients may self-certify that they were affected by COVID, and the agency must outline that process in their policies and procedures.

Question #7: Do you require the landlord to have an active business license to be paid?

Yes.

Question #8: If a landlord refuses payment, we heard that the treasury allows you to send the check to the tenant.  Is that true?

There may be instances when a landlord refuses to accept a payment from a tenant who has received assistance directly from an agency for the purpose of paying the landlord. In these cases, the agency may allow the tenant to use the assistance for other eligible costs in accordance with the terms of Salt Lake County’s ERA program.

Question #9: We heard that if they have a housing choice voucher (HCV), then the funds can be used to pay the tenant’s portion of rent.  If another program is not already covering it.  Is that true?

Yes, PHA’s may accept funds ERA for rental and utility arrearages. However, PHA’s are highly encouraged to use their existing tools to help families maintain their housing. PHA’s should complete any pending or requested reexaminations as a best practice to ensure no duplication of assistance.

Question #10: Are these pass-through federal funds from HUD?

This RFA is funded by the U.S Department of the Treasury. As part of the American Rescue Plan, the County received federal emergency rental assistance funds to help individuals pay their rent and utilities during the pandemic under the Emergency Rental Assistance program (ERAP 2) established by section 3201 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021).