| From: | SLFRF@treasury.gov |
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| Sent: | Friday, October 14, 2022 10:28 AM |
| To: | clerk@saratogawyo.org |
| Subject: | Update on Treasury Contact Center Operations |

Dear SLFRF recipient,

We are writing to follow up on the September 23, 2022 letter you received from Treasury's Deputy Secretary Wally Adeyemo to provide additional details on the way Treasury's funding shortfall will impact you as a recipient of an award under the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program.

After Monday, October 17, Treasury's contact center will no longer be able to respond to phone calls. In addition, starting later this month Treasury will be forced to further ramp down staff support for the contact center and as a result response times to recipient emails are also expected to be significantly delayed. Tribal recipients may email tribal.consult@treasury.gov for assistance.

To assist recipients, Treasury has provided a number of self-service resources to answer commonly asked questions. Please refer to the SLFRF program website for this information about how to solve common issues including account access issues, payments questions, and other logistical issues.

For program administration and grants management-related inquiries, including inquiries on eligible uses, please refer to the program's website as well as the following program guidance materials to address frequently asked questions:

- For **Revenue Loss** inquiries, please see pages 9-11 of the Overview of the Final Rule, as well as FAQs #3.1, #3.2, #3.3, #4.1, #13.14, #13.15, and #13.16.
- For **Premium Pay** inquiries, please see pages 35-36 of the Overview of the Final Rule, as well as FAQs #5.1 - #5.4 and pages 6, 29-30 of the Compliance and Reporting Guidance.
- For **Affordable Housing** inquiries, please see pages 14-20 of the Overview of the Final Rule, the Affordable Housing How-To Guide, and FAQs #2.14 and #4.9.
- For **Build America, Buy America Act (BABA)** inquiries, please see FAQs #6.18 and #6.19.
- For **taxability** inquiries regarding SLFRF payments, please see the IRS-issued FAQs.
- For **second tranche payments**, visit our Guidance on Second Tranche Payments including our Treasury Portal Submission walkthrough.
- For various overviews of the SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance, review our Treasury SLFRF-related webinars.

Please note that these materials provide an overview of the guidance and should not be used as a substitute for reviewing the authorizing statute, the Final Rule (effective April 1, 2022), as well as the SLFRF Award Terms and Conditions, and other program guidance and requirements.

Thank you for your patience while Treasury works with Congress to provide the necessary resources

September 23, 2022

Dear Recovery Program Recipients:

Thank you for the work that you do every day to support families across the country, including through your work on programs administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. We are writing to provide an update on the status of Treasury's operations regarding the recovery programs that it administers.

As you know, Congress gave Treasury the important responsibility of overseeing a range of recovery programs, including those funded by the American Rescue Plan. Over the past two years, Treasury has worked hard to fulfill that responsibility alongside dedicated state, local, territorial, and Tribal partners. And we have seen the impact, from the over 7 million payments made under the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to the over 50,000 projects undertaken by state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic through a variety of innovative and impactful approaches. We know that many of our recipients have had to significantly increase their capacity to administer these recovery funds, creating or expanding programs that have helped Americans across the country recover from the pandemic.

Just as many of you have had to expand your capacity, Treasury has also worked to build a dedicated team to oversee these funds, many of whom you know through our webinars, outreach calls, technical assistance, email, call center operations, and more. In particular, we have prioritized building the capacity necessary to answer questions from the 30,000 states, territories, cities, counties, towns, and Tribes that are navigating our programs. We have focused our efforts on ensuring that recipients can both swiftly access funds and responsibly use them, whether by engaging directly with smaller Tribes and localities who are new to working with the Federal government, adjusting our guidance as needed to ensure program rules are compatible with recipient needs, or developing—with the support of the audit community—an alternative compliance examination for certain recipients that will reduce burden and yet still provide accountability for the funds.

However, Treasury is facing constraints that will put our ability to continue this level of support to recipients at risk – with the greatest impact likely felt by the smallest jurisdictions and Tribal governments, who often rely on more in-depth engagement with Treasury. Congress appropriated funding to Treasury to administer recovery programs, and some programs were given more than enough funding to cover their operations. But in the case of several other programs, the available funding is insufficient to allow Treasury to maintain the current levels of administrative support. These programs include the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, the Homeowner Assistance Fund, and the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund.

Treasury has been working with Congress to seek flexibility in how administrative funds can be used across programs, which would preserve our ability to provide support across these programs without affecting any of the Department's operations. These changes would not require any