
***SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM***

Information Memorandum

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services
Division of State Assistance
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20447
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ssbg**

Transmittal No. 02-2006

Date:

TO: Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) State Officials and State Program Contacts

SUBJECT: Time Limitations for Use of SSBG Supplemental Emergency Funds for Construction

PURPOSE: To share with States guidance regarding the time limitations on the use of SSBG Supplemental Emergency Funds for the repair, renovation, or construction of facilities.

The Office of Community Services (OCS) has received inquiries from a number of States about the period of availability of Fiscal Year 2006 SSBG Supplemental Emergency Funding. The purpose of this brief instruction is to review the statutory constraints on the obligation and liquidation of these funds.

The Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2006, also known as the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, provided \$550 million in SSBG funding. The authorization allows for the obligation and liquidation of these supplemental dollars during Federal Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007. In practical terms, this means that any funds remaining unexpended by September 30, 2007 must be returned to the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

States have expressed concern about their ability to responsibly plan for, undertake and complete authorized facilities construction projects before the ability to use these funds expires. While OCS understands the concern, the time limitations are inherent in the authorizing legislation and must be observed. As a matter of law, OCS cannot offer flexibility that the authorizing statute does not provide. Consequently, we encourage States to take the steps necessary to use the SSBG supplemental funds to address the pressing social and health services needs of individuals, and for the repair, renovation and construction of facilities for authorized purposes, prior to their expiration on September 30, 2007.

Please address further inquiries to:

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