

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program

What is SSVF?

SSVF is a program developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs and provides supportive services to low-income Veteran Families experiencing housing issues. The program utilizes a Housing First Approach. The essential idea of Housing First is that people's need for housing is a basic need that should be met as quickly as possible, without any preconditions.

The Program is designed to help Veteran Families regain housing stability after experiencing a housing crisis and or homelessness. To meet this goal, funds are granted to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives. [List of FY2020 SSVF Providers](#)

Who is eligible?

- Veterans
- Low-income: gross annual income less than 50% AMI
- Imminently At-Risk of Homelessness: facing imminent loss of primary nighttime residence, no other residence and no sufficient resources or support network immediately available

Veteran: A person who served in the active military, naval or air service, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released there from, excluding any one who received a dishonorable discharge or was discharged or dismissed by reason of a general court-martial

What services are provided?

SSVF providers offer eligible Veteran Families outreach, case management, and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits. SSVF providers also provide time-limited payments to third parties (e.g. landlords, utility companies, moving companies, and licensed childcare providers) to further the goal of achieving sustainable housing.

What funding is available?

SSVF providers are currently operating under the FY2020 grant until December 31, 2020. Starting January 1, 2021 or once FY2020 grants are fully spent, CARES Act 2.0 grants will begin and must be fully expended with FY2021 funds by June 30, 2022. FY2021 funds total \$400 million. CARES Act funds are 103% of FY2021 funds. [FY2021 SSVF Award List](#).

VA Policy and Regulatory Updates due to COVID-19 crisis:

- Limit on number of months for rental and utility assistance suspended (but only one security deposit over 2-yr period)
- Previously enrolled Veterans who exhausted FTA limitations may be re-enrolled
- Budget caps on TFA waived
- Time limits for housing programs lifted
- Can be used for Veterans who need to quarantine and vulnerable Veterans in congregated settings

For more information:

COVID Consolidated Program Guide:

https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/ssvf/docs/SSVF_COVID_Consolidated_Guidance.pdf

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