



## Essential Update November 2020, Number 2 - ESF National Eligibility Rules and Programme Guidance Updated

### ESF National Eligibility Rules and Programme Guidance Updated

You may be aware that the Managing Authority issued [Action Note 055/20](#) on 17 November 2020. This explains that the two guidance documents ESF National Eligibility Rules and Programme Guidance have been updated and combined into a single document - [Eligibility Rules and Programme Guidance](#). In addition, it details a new document that has been released, [Simplified Cost Options Guidance](#).

We have reviewed both documents and can confirm that they are largely in keeping with current practices on BBO. However, we have contacted the Managing Authority for clarity on a couple of points and will provide updates if necessary.

There are two areas of the updated guidance that we would like to bring to your attention, these provide additional clarity to what has previously been published:

- Further information has been provided on paying for participant housing costs where it is shown to be a major barrier to employment. Please note, costs associated with housing arrears or debt remain ineligible. (Please see [Eligibility Rules and Programme Guidance, Expenditure \(Project Costs\)](#))
- The eligibility of Asylum seekers to access ESF support has been reviewed by the Home Office. (Please see [Eligibility Rules and Programme Guidance, Participant Eligibility](#))

We will update the Guide to Delivering European Funding to reflect these changes over the coming months. Please bear with us whilst we do this.