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## Help Needed: Clarify Waiver Guidance to Expedite Life-Saving Activities

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**Nicholas Enrich** <nenrich@usaid.gov>

Wed, Feb 26, 2025 at 7:30 AM

To: Mark Lloyd &lt;mlloyd@usaid.gov&gt;

Cc: Julie Wallace &lt;jwallace@usaid.gov&gt;, Carmen Coles &lt;ccoles@usaid.gov&gt;, Han Kang &lt;hkang@usaid.gov&gt;, Nida Parks &lt;nparks@usaid.gov&gt;, Ramona Godbole &lt;rgodbole@usaid.gov&gt;, "Machuca, Natalia" &lt;nmachuca@usaid.gov&gt;

Hi Mark,

As discussed earlier this week (and with apologies for the delayed follow up confirmation), I am writing to confirm our discussion that, despite Joel's email last week, the [existing Agency guidance](#) continues to be the active guidance, and thus lifesaving humanitarian assistance activities are not approved under the waiver until they receive specific SBO Jackson approval.

Pursuant to the guidance, we separately sent you yesterday the latest list of proposed activities for approval under the LHA waiver for GH.

Thanks,  
Nick

**Nicholas Z. Enrich**

Acting Assistant Administrator

Bureau for Global Health

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

On Fri, Feb 21, 2025 at 1:01 PM Nicholas Enrich <nenrich@usaid.gov> wrote:

Hi Mark,

Thanks for agreeing to engage Joel and others in the FO on clarifying the lifesaving humanitarian assistance waiver approval guidance to ensure that approval of these critical activities is not delayed. Based on Joel's February 19 email (copied below), activities included in the spreadsheet are already approved by Bureaus and Independent Offices as life-saving. However, the [standing Agency guidance](#) sent by ES on Feb. 14th says that SBO Jackson needs to approve the activities.

We have proposed minor edits to the standing Agency guidance in [this document](#), in order to clarify that SBO Jackson does not need to approve lifesaving activities - as they are already approved - but that he still needs the list of activities and the forms in order to approve the **payment**.

Our request is for Joel/Ken to sign off on these minor changes to the guidance

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Nick

**Nicholas Z. Enrich**

Acting Assistant Administrator

Bureau for Global Health

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Joel's email from 2/19

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Hi Teammates,

Mark and Nick are tracking the PPE issues. We are directed to let WHO know we are picking up our items and we need to figure out a way to get them and deliver them to the right people/organizations in need. This will be a priority. Please keep me updated throughout the process. Please leverage the CST for any type of assistance.

Additionally, **life saving things like Marburg do not need a waiver (so there should be no pause)**. They do need to go through the payment approval process. I understand there have been challenges as we have updated the payment process, but let's not have that get in the way of getting things approved. Please use the process in place (emailing me directly is not the right solution), use the chain of command, prioritize things like infectious diseases, and reflag issues that seem like they are sitting and should not be.

Mark and Brian, you are the leads on this, but please rely on Nick and Julie's expertise.

I really appreciate everyone's hard work.

Thanks,  
Joel

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Respectfully,

**Joel M. Borkert**  
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