

Overview of the FY 2019 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition NOFA

- Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6300-N-25
- CFDA Number: 14.267

IMPORTANT PROJECT APPLICATION DATES & DEADLINES:

- July 3, 2019 – 2018 NOFA Published
- July 26, 2019 – Signed Intent to Apply & Threshold forms due to CoC via email in PDF format
- TBD – NOFA Application Lab
- August 16, 2019 – Project Applications submitted to CoC via eSnaps and PDF for ranking
- August 29, 2019 – Ranking Committee Meeting: New Project & Stage 2 Renewal Projects Ranked
- August 30, 2019 – Project Applications notified of inclusion in CoC Collaborative Application
- September 6, 2019 – Project response and appeals to CoC due on Application Rank & Score
- September 12, 2019 – CoC Membership meeting with vote on Collaborative Application
- September 13, 2019 – Final Project Application edits submitted in eSnaps and PDF to CoC
- September 23, 2019 – Collaborative Application posted on CoC website

HUD CoC Consolidated Application Deadline: September 30, 2019 @ 7:00 PM. **Note:** *Project Applications must be submitted by the Project deadlines NOT the Consolidated Application deadline.*

Highlights of the 2019 CoC NOFA:

- \$2.3 billion is available for the FY19 CoC Program NOFA including \$50 million in DV bonus funds.
- HUD will continue to CoCs to rank all projects, except CoC planning, and is requiring placing projects in Tiers.
 - Tier 1 is equal to the greater of the combined amount of Annual Renewal Amount (ARA) for all permanent housing and HMIS projects eligible for renewal up to \$1,000,000 or 94 percent of the CoC's FY 2018 Annual Renewal Demand (ARD).
 - Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for bonus projects (not including amounts available for DV Bonus projects and before adjustments are made to permanent housing leasing, operating, and rental assistance budget line items based on changes to Fair Market Rent (FMR)).
- Project Applicants must abide by the CoC deadline, meet HUD eligibility criteria, request eligible activities (listed under 24 CFR, part 578), adequately answer all questions, and attach all required documents to be considered eligible for funding.
- The CoC is required to rank projects in order of priority and identify projects rejected. Planning projects will not be ranked. Ranking is based on capacity, quality, priorities, and performance. Reallocation is recommended for underperforming projects. Projects with outstanding HUD audit findings, history of ineligible participants, evidence of untimely expenditures, or financial management concerns, may be eliminated from competition.
- Transition grants to transition from one project type to another.
- Renewal projects requesting RA may request a per-unit amount less than FMR based on actual rent costs and cannot request more than 100% FMR.

- Agencies may request that two to four projects combine to become a Consolidated Project. The CoC must approve the request and projects must be without findings or a history of low utilization or financial management/drawn down/capacity issues.
- New projects can be created through one or a combination of the following:
 1. Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus: 10 % of PPRN or \$52,001 is available for new or expanded that demonstrate trauma-informed, victim centered approaches. Eligible project types include:
 - Rapid-Rehousing (PH-RRH),
 - Transitional-Rapid-Rehousing, (TH & PH-RRH) or
 - Coordinated Entry (SSO to implement CES policies, procedures and practices that enhance the system to better meet victim needs).
 DV Bonus projects will be ranked with a unique rank number and may be conditionally selected outside of the CoC ranking order.
 2. Bonus Project & Bonus-Reallocation: Up to 5% of FPRN is available for a bonus project if the CoC has demonstrated the ability to reallocate lower performing projects to create higher performing projects. A combination bonus reallocation project may also be requested utilizing the 5%. Eligible project types include;
 - Permanent Supportive Housing,
 - Permanent Housing-Rapid-Rehousing,
 - Joint Transitional & Permanent-Rapid Rehousing,
 - HMIS (carried out by the HMIS lead for expanded HMIS or comparable victim service provider data base activities), or
 - SSO for Coordinated Entry.
 3. Reallocation: New projects may be created from one or more projects identified for reallocation. Eligible project components include; Dedicated or Dedicated PLUS Permanent Supportive, Rapid-Rehousing, Transitional-Rapid Rehousing, HMIS, or Coordinated Entry.
 - Anticipated bonus amounts are:
 - DV Bonus: \$52,001
 - Traditional Bonus: \$41,970
- Expansion projects can be requested with either bonus or reallocated funding in order to expand existing units in a project or serve additional persons, or in the case of HMIS, grant activities will be expanded within CoC and fits into the funding parameters of bonus or reallocation. Expansion projects are required to submit 3 project applications: 1) renewal application that will be expanded; and 2) new project application for the expansions; and 3) a combined application for the renewal and expanded activities.
- Planning Grant: The CoC Collaborative Applicant may request 3% or \$25,182 for eligible CoC planning activities. The Planning Grant is not ranked.

Important links:

- [HUD Competition page](#)
- The entire 2017 NOFA can be found on the [HUD competition page](#) and on a link at the CoC website home page.

- HUD Ask A Questions (AAQ): <https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/my-question/>
- E-snaps FAQs can be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps/faqs/>

Eligible Project Applicants: Eligible project applicants are nonprofit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State and local governments, and public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100.. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be sub-recipients of grant funds. **Furthermore, to be eligible for funding applicants must meet all HUD statutory, regulatory and threshold requirements.**

HUDS' Homeless Policy and Program Priorities:

1. Ending homelessness for all persons.
 - a. Identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness.
 - b. Measure performance based on data considering challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area.
 - c. Have a comprehensive outreach strategy in place to identify and engage those who are unsheltered.
 - d. Use data to understand the population and develop services tailored to their needs, particularly those with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness.
 - e. Use the reallocation process to create new projects that improve the overall performance and better respond to the needs of person who are homeless.
2. Create a systemic response to homelessness.
 - a. Use system performance measures (SPMs) to determine how effectively you are serving people experiencing homelessness.
 - b. Use Coordinated Entry to promote participant choice, coordinate services, ensure rapid access, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent.
3. Strategically allocate and use resources.
 - a. Use cost, performance, and outcome data to improve resources allocation to end homelessness.
 - b. Review project quality, performance, and cost effectiveness.
 - c. Maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources.
 - d. Review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2018 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness as well as their cost effectiveness.
 - e. Develop partnerships that help persons exit to permanent housing options and reach recovery, self-sufficiency, and independence when possible. Partnerships include: PHAs, governments, and faith based/other non-profits, particularly those treating mental illness and substance abuse, job training, and life skills.
4. Use Evidence-Based Approaches:
 - a. Prioritize projects that employ strong use of data and evidence, including cost effectiveness and provide positive outcomes, recovery, self-sufficiency and reduce homelessness.

- b. Evaluate projects on areas including; reduced LOT, reduced returns to homelessness, improved income (earned & unearned), improvements in overall well-being (mental health, connections to family, physical health, safety)
5. Increase Employment:
- a. Work with local employment agencies and employees to prioritize training and employment and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for persons experiencing homelessness.
 - b. Promote partnerships with public and private organization that promote employment.
6. Use a Housing First approach with flexibility for service participation requirements.
- a. Rapidly place and stabilize persons in permanent housing.
 - i. Help households move quickly into permanent housing.
 - ii. Measure to help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness.
 - iii. Engage landlords and property owners.
 - iv. Adopt client-centered service methods.
 - b. Remove barriers to entry. Do NOT have service participation requirements or preconditions such as income, employment or sobriety.
 - c. Once households are stable in housing, service participation requirements that promote housing stability outcomes (increased income, reduced substance use, and strengthened social connections) may be utilized.

PROJECT APPLICATION PROCESS:

Projects wishing to apply for the 2019 competition must complete the Project Threshold/Intent to Apply, Project Application, required attachments and Ranking Score Card. Projects meeting the application criteria will be reviewed and ranked as part of the 2019 competition. Competition documents are submitted both via PDF and in esnaps. If a project does not meet threshold requirements or does not score high enough, it will not be included in this year's application. Notification of included and excluded projects will be sent via email. Please refer to the entire Project Application packet for timeline, detailed criteria, forms, process and policies.

Solo Applicants. Eligible project applicants that attempted to participate in the CoC planning process in the geographic area in which they operate, that believe they were denied the right to participate in a reasonable manner, may submit a solo project application to HUD and may be awarded a grant from HUD by following the procedure found in 24 CFR 578.35. Solo applicants must submit their solo project application in esnaps to HUD by 8:00 PM Eastern time, September 18, 2018, which must include the CoC's notification of rejection of the project in the local competition as an attachment to the Solo Applicant's project application. If the CoC fails to provide written notification, outside of e-snaps, the Solo Applicant must attach a statement that the CoC did not provide the Solo Applicant written notification of the CoC rejecting the project in the local CoC competition. See Section X.C of this NOFA for additional information regarding the Solo Applicant appeal process.