



FY2018 Continuum of Care Program Competition Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Highlights

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition NOFA was released on June 20, 2018. The application is due by 6:59:59pm (CST) on September 18, 2018. There is approximately \$2.1 billion available in the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA, including up to \$50 million available for Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects. Project Applications are due no later than 30 days prior to the NOFA deadline and the CoC must notify project applicants if their application will be included in the CoC Consolidated Application submission within 15 days prior to the deadline.

HUD is continuing its two-tier funding process similar to previous years. Similar to last year, Tier 1 will be 94% of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) and Tier 2 will be 6%. Chicago's estimated ARD is \$67,054,040*.

The focus of HUD's Homeless Policy and Program Priorities for this NOFA are:

- 1) Ending homelessness for all persons
 - a) Identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness
 - b) Measure performance based on local data and take into account challenges faced by subpopulations
 - c) Have a comprehensive outreach strategy to identify and engage all unsheltered individuals and families
 - d) Determine characteristics of individual and families with high needs and longest experiences of homelessness
 - e) Develop housing and supportive services tailored to those with highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness
 - f) Utilize the reallocation process to create new projects that improve overall performance
- 2) Creating a systemic response to homelessness
 - a) Use system performance measures
 - b) Coordinated Entry Process should:
 - i) Promote participant choice
 - ii) Coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing & services to ensure rapid assistance
 - iii) Make homelessness assistance open, inclusive and transparent
- 3) Strategically allocating and using resources
 - a) Use cost, performance, and outcome data to improve resource utilization
 - b) Maximize use of mainstream and other community resources
 - c) Review all renewal projects to determine effectiveness and cost effectiveness in

**At time of publication, HUD has not released the Final Pro Rata Need. All Chicago will provide communication regarding the Final Pro Rata Need once available.*

- serving people experiencing homelessness
- 4) Using a Housing First Approach
 - a) Help individuals and families move into permanent housing quickly
 - b) Reduce the length of time people experience homelessness
 - c) Engage landlords and property owners
 - d) Remove barriers to entry
 - e) Adopt client-centered service methods

CoC Program Implementation considerations highlighted in the NOFA include:

- 1) CoCs may submit requests for new projects through the process of reallocation, new bonus and Domestic Violence bonus
- 2) The FY 2018 Appropriations Act establishes certain requirements for the Competition and these will continue for the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition, which include:
 - a) CoCs cannot receive grants for new projects, other than through reallocation, unless the CoC competitively ranks projects based on how they improve system performance;
 - b) HUD must base an increasing share of the CoC score on performance criteria; and,
 - c) HUD must prioritize funding for CoCs that have demonstrated the ability to reallocate resources to higher performing projects.
- 3) The FY 2017 Appropriations Act established the ability of renewal projects to transition from one CoC Program component to another during the CoC Program Competition.
 - a) No more than 50% of each transition grant may be used for costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded;
 - b) Transition grants are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new program component;
 - c) Renewal project applicants must have consent of the CoC and meet standards outlined in Section III.C.3.r
- 4) The FY 2018 HUD Appropriations Act provides the opportunity for CoCs to apply for a Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus between \$50,000 and \$5 million to create three DV Bonus Projects. Eligible project types are Rapid Re-housing projects, Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) component projects and SSO projects for coordinated entry. The CoC can include 1 new project application for each model type.
- 5) Eligible renewal project applicants have the ability to consolidate two or more eligible renewal projects (but no more than four projects) into one project application. Applicants should consult with the local HUD field office to ensure it is eligible to consolidate.
- 6) New project applications may be created through the reallocation process or as bonus projects. The following types of projects may be created:
 - a) Permanent Supportive Housing projects that meet [DedicatedPLUS](#) or all beds will be dedicated for use by chronically homeless individuals and families;
 - b) Rapid Re-housing projects that will serve homeless individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth
 - c) Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve homeless individual and families, including individuals and families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence

- situations, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who meet the following criteria:
- i) Residing in a place not meant for human habitation
 - ii) Residing in an Emergency Shelter
 - iii) Person meeting the criteria in paragraph (4) of the homeless definition, including fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence situations
 - iv) Residing in a Transitional Housing project that is being eliminated
 - v) Residing in Transitional Housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project
 - vi) Receiving services from a VA-funded homeless assistance program and meeting one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA's homeless assistance system
- d) Dedicated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) project for the HMIS Lead
 - e) Supportive Services Only project specifically for a centralized or coordinated assessment system
- 7) CoCs may create new projects through the Permanent Housing bonus up to 6 percent of the CoC's Final Pro-Rata Need (FPRN) for the following types of new projects:
 - a) To see which project types may be created, please see [Section 3, Parts a-c above](#)
 - 8) HUD will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project under reallocation or Permanent Housing bonus in order to expand existing eligible renewal projects that will increase the number of units in the project or all additional recipients to be served.
 - 9) HUD no longer requires submission of the GIW.
 - 10) Only one CoC planning project application may be submitted per CoC per funding year.
 - 11) CoCs must consult with Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) recipients within the geographic area on the plan for allocating ESG funds and reporting on and evaluating the performance of ESG recipients and sub-recipients. Each CoC will be required to describe how it is coordinating with the ESG recipient.
 - 12) The CoC must have an HMIS that has the capacity to collect unduplicated counts of individuals and families experiencing homelessness and provide information to project recipients and applicants for needs analysis and funding priorities. CoC and ESG recipients must participate in the local HMIS.
 - 13) CoCs may request up to 10 percent of funding be allocated to serve children and youth defined as homeless under other federal statutes who are unstably housed (paragraph 3 of the homeless definition).
 - 14) HUD will allow new reallocated projects to request funding for 1 year; any new reallocated project requesting capital costs are not eligible for 1-year funding, and HUD will increase the grant term to 3 years if they are submitted for 1-year terms.
 - 15) CoCs will be required to rank all renewal projects and all new projects created through reallocation and PH bonuses in e-snaps. CoC planning and UFA Costs do not need to be ranked. HUD will not review any project that is rejected by the CoC.
 - 16) HUD will continue the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding process:
 - a) Tier 1 is equal to 94 percent of the CoC's ARD amount and will be based on the amount of funds requested by the eligible renewal project application on the Renewal Project Listing combined with the eligible renewal project amounts that were reallocated.

Projects in this tier will be conditionally selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC, provided the project applications pass both eligibility and threshold review.

- b) Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD, plus any amount available for the Permanent Housing bonus.
 - c) CoC planning projects and UFA costs projects are not ranked. The projects that pass the eligibility and review threshold will be conditionally selected using CoC scores from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring.
- 17) Each new and renewal project application will be scored on a 100-point scale
- a) CoC Score = Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Application
 - b) CoC Project Ranking = Up to 40 points
 - c) Housing First = Up to 10 points

The following are CoC Program Requirements

- 1) DedicatedPLUS Projects = PSH projects where 100% of beds are dedicated to serve individuals with disabilities and families in which one adult or child has a disability, including unaccompanied homeless youth that at intake are:
 - a) Experiencing chronic homelessness
 - b) Residing in a TH project that will be eliminated and meets the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individual or family entered the TH project
 - c) Residing in a place not meant for human habitation, Emergency Shelter, or Safe Haven, but the individuals or families experiencing chronic homelessness had been admitted and enrolled in a PH project within the last year and were unable to maintain the housing placement
 - d) Residing in TH funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project and who were experiencing chronic homelessness prior to entering the project
 - e) Residing and has resided in a place not meant for human habitation, a Safe Haven or Emergency Shelter for at least 12 months in the last 3 years, but has not done so on four separate occasions
 - f) Receiving assistance through a VA-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA's homeless assistance system
- 2) Renewal projects that are 100% dedicated to chronically homeless individuals and families under the grant being renewed may either become DedicatedPLUS projects or may continue to dedicate 100% to chronically homeless individuals and families.
- 3) Human Trafficking = HUD would consider an individual or family experiencing human trafficking as homeless under paragraph 4 of the definition.
- 4) Joint TH and PH-RRH is a new program model type
 - a) Program participants may choose to receive only the TH unit or the PH-RRH component, but the recipient must make both types of assistance available.
- 5) Compliance with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA): Grants awarded under this NOFA will be required to comply with VAWA rule. To enable full compliance each CoC must establish an emergency transfer plan and make related updates to the written

standards for administering CoC program assistance.

Threshold Requirements

HUD will review the project applications for threshold requirements on a pass/fail standard

- 1) Ineligible Applicants
- 2) Project Eligibility Threshold
- 3) Project Quality Threshold
- 4) Project Renewal Threshold
- 5) Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan
- 6) Environmental Requirements

The following is the breakdown of potential points for the various sections of the NOFA (225 Pts.)

<i>CoC Coordination & Engagement</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Inclusive Structure & Participation	4
Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private and other Organizations	2
Addressing the Needs of Victims of DV	3
Addressing the Needs of LGBT Individuals	2
PHA	5
Discharge Planning	2
Housing First & Reducing Barriers	7
Street Outreach	3
Affirmative Outreach	1
Criminalization	2
Rapid Re-Housing	10
Mainstream Benefits and Other Assistance	1
Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System	3
Addressing Racial Disparities in homelessness	3
Requirements for CoCs	-2
<i>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</i>	48

<i>Project Capacity, Review and Ranking</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Objective Criteria and Past Performance	18
Severity of Needs and Performance	4
Reallocating Projects	4
Ranking and Selection Process	3
<i>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</i>	29

<i>HMIS</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
HMIS Governance	2
HMIS Policy & Procedures	2
HIC	1
Bed Coverage	6
AHAR Submission	2

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	13
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<i>PIT</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
PIT Count & Data Submission	3
Effectively Counting Youth	3
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	6

<i>System Performance</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Reducing the Number of Homeless Individuals and Families	10
Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless	3
Length of Time Homeless	14
Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention	11
Returns to Homelessness	8
Jobs and Income Growth	4
HMIS System Performance Measures	6
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	56

<i>Performance & Strategic Planning</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Ending Chronic Homelessness	12
Ending Homelessness Among Households with Children	12
Ending Youth Homelessness	12
Ending Veteran Homelessness	12
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	48

<i>CoC Merger Bonus Points</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Merged CoC	25
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	25

New Project and Renewal (100 Pts.)

<i>New Project and Renewal</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
CoC Score (Scored in direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Application)	50
CoC Project Ranking	40
Housing First (Scored based on how application commits to Housing First model)	10
TH, Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, Safe Haven, and SSO Projects not for CE (Can receive up to 10 points based on how project demonstrates that it is low-barrier, prioritizes rapid placement in PH, and does not have services participation requirements)	
HMIS and SSO for CE (Will automatically get 10 points)	
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	100