



FY2017 Continuum of Care Program Competition Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Highlights

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition NOFA was released on July 14, 2017. The application is due by 6:59:59pm (CST) on September 28, 2017. There is approximately \$2 billion available this year for the competition. 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. A change in this year's tiers is Tier 1 will be 94% of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) and Tier 2 will be 6%. Chicago's estimated ARD is \$63,727,938, which means Tier 1 will be approximately \$59,904,262 and Tier 2 will be approximately \$7,647,352.

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
- 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 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 or the permanent housing bonus
- 2) The FY 2016 Appropriations Act establishes certain requirements for the Competition and these will continue for the FY 2017 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) CoCs may create new projects by using amounts available through the permanent housing bonus or by making funds available through reallocation. The following types of projects may be created through reallocation:
 - a) New Permanent Supportive Housing projects that meet [DedicatedPLUS](#) or all beds will be dedicated for use by chronically homeless individuals and families;
 - b) New Rapid Re-Housing projects that will serve homeless individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth, 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 was eliminated in the FY2017 CoC Program Competition
 - 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 met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA's homeless assistance system
 - c) New 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
 - d) New dedicated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) project for the HMIS Lead
 - e) New Supportive Services Only project specifically for a centralized or coordinated assessment system
- 4) 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](#)
- 5) Joint TH and PH-RRH projects and permanent housing projects (PH and RRH) may be created through reallocation or bonus permanent housing. HUD may reclassify them because a CoC exceeded either its reallocation or permanent bonus housing amount.
 - 6) 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.
 - 7) HUD no longer requires submission of the GIW.
 - 8) Only one CoC planning project application may be submitted per CoC per funding year.
 - 9) 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.
 - 10) 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.
 - 11) 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).
 - 12) 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.
 - 13) CoCs will be required to rank all projects, except CoC planning and UFA Costs, submitted by project applicants in e-snaps: renewal and new projects created through reallocation and permanent housing bonus. HUD will not review any project that is rejected by the CoC.
 - 14) 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.
 - 15) 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 new 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 a 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 experience 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
- 3) Project Quality
- 4) Project Renewal Threshold
- 5) Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan

The following is the breakdown of potential points for the various sections of the NOFA (200 Pts.)

<i>CoC Coordination & Engagement</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Inclusive Structure & Participation	4
Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private and other Organizations	3
Addressing the Needs of Victims of DV	3
Addressing the Needs of LGBT Individuals	2
PHA	5
Discharge Planning	2
Housing First & Reducing Barriers	8
Street Outreach	3
Affirmative Outreach	1
Criminalization	2
Rapid Re-Housing	8
Mainstream Benefits and Other Assistance	2
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	43

<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

<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	11
Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention	9
Returns to Homelessness	6
Jobs and Income Growth	4
HMIS System Performance Measures	6
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	49

<i>Performance & Strategic Planning</i>	<i>Potential Points</i>
Ending Chronic Homelessness	15
Ending Homelessness Among Households with Children	15
Ending Youth Homelessness	15
Ending Veteran Homelessness	15
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	60

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

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