Local CoC Program Competition Notice

Funding Year - FY2024/FY2025

Initial release 8/26/24

NOTE:

Project applicants should review this Competition Guide along with the HUD CoC Program NOFO (FR-6800-N-25) released on July 30, 2024, to ensure a comprehensive understanding of and compliance with all CoC Program requirements.

New to FY24/25 – *HUD reserves the right to award FY25 funding based on FY24 funding results, which may result in only requiring this application process in the 2024 calendar year.*

More information:
https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition

Last Updated: 8/25/24

HUD Guidelines for the Local Competition

On July 30, 2024, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published the CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants. CoC Consolidated Applications, which include the CoC Application, Project Priority Listing, and Project Applications, are due to HUD **before 8PM EST on October 30, 2024**.

For more information, the NOFO and HUD's other CoC competition resources are available at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition

Local Competition Goals and Responsibilities

In order to participate in the HUD CoC Program Competition, CoCs must conduct a Local Competition to select and prioritize projects to be included in the CoC's regional Collaborative Application to HUD.

In 2024, the Tennessee Valley CoC's objective for project solicitations, reviews, and ranking is to advance our community's goal of ending homelessness and to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to people experiencing homelessness.

The Governing Council develops project priorities for the Competition in consultation with community representatives. The CoC membership then approves them and incorporates them into the Local Competition requirements.

The TVCoC's Rank and Review Committee conducts project scoring and ranking. The CoC affirms committee members who must abide by the CoC's Conflict of Interest statement in their scoring and ranking.

Eligible Projects

Before submitting an application, all applicants must have an active Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). If funded, agencies are _required_ to participate in the HUD-mandated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry System. _Applicants are required to provide a 25% cash or in-kind match, per HUD standards, for all line items within the project except for leasing._

Opportunities for potential new TVCoC funding for the 2023 COC Program Competition:

CoC Bonus
Anticipated funding: $284,884

Applicants can seek funding for new, eligible programs. The amount available for the CoC Bonus depends on various factors, including TVCOC's overall application score, the new project application's local rank as determined by the TVCoC Rank and Review Committee, and the quality of the project application. To find more information on the CoC NOFO requirements and CoC Regulations as well as project descriptions, refer to the 2024 CoC Program NOFO, which can be found at:
https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition

Eligible categories for CoC Bonus funding are summarized below:

- Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH)
- Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH)
- Joint Transitional Housing/ Rapid Rehousing (TH/PH-RRH)
- Dedicated HMIS project for the costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(4) that may only be carried out by the HMIS Lead, which is the recipient or subrecipient of an HMIS grant and is listed on the HMIS Lead form in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps. Additionally, if the CoC has organizations within its geographic area that are victim service providers, the HMIS Lead or subrecipient may request HMIS funds for a comparable database. Victim service providers may also request HMIS funds to enter data into a comparable database in their project application budgets.
- Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system.

Domestic Violence Bonus
Anticipated funding available: $356,105

Funding is available for projects creating new programs to address the needs of victims and families of those who have experienced domestic violence. CoC Domestic Violence Bonus funding is a nationwide, competitive opportunity dependent on various factors, including TVCOC's overall application score, the new project application's local rank as determined by the TVCOC Rank and Review Committee, and the quality of the project application. To find more information on the CoC NOFO requirements and CoC Regulations as well as project descriptions, refer to the 2024 CoC Program NOFO, which can be found at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition

Eligible categories for CoC Bonus funding are summarized below:

- Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-RRH) projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3);
- Joint Transitional Housing/ Rapid Rehousing (TH/PH-RRH) component projects defined in section I.B.2.b.(18) of this NOFO dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3); or

- Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Soliciting Project Applications

All projects seeking CoC Program funding through the Tennessee Valley Local CoC Program Competition are asked to submit an intent to apply and then submit a full application if eligible. New projects are invited from eligible applicants who serve the CoC region, including entities that have not previously received CoC Program funds.

As soon as possible after the NOFO release, the Tennessee Valley CoC issues the Local CoC Program Competition Notice to solicit new Project Applications from eligible and qualified applicants to propose eligible project types.

The Notice will be posted on the CoC lead agency's website (https://tvchomeless.org/cocnofo2024/) and distributed via the CoC email listserv, which includes CoC members and partners across the region. (Throughout the year, anyone interested in CoC planning or activities can sign up for the listserv by contacting the CoC Lead.) CoC listserv members are also encouraged to share the announcement within their networks.

If interested in new funding opportunities through the 2024 CoC Program NOFO, please contact the TVCoC's Collaborative Applicant Lead – Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless Executive Director, Katelyn McGuire at kmcguire@tvceh.org or 865-440-8670. New funding is highly competitive and is not guaranteed with a project application. The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care invites local applicants with a guarantee of a fair application process within the guidelines supplied by HUD.

Though HUD establishes hard deadlines for the CoC Program Competition, the TVCoC reserves the right to implement local deadlines to ensure a fair and inclusive process for applicants. As the competition evolves, TVCoC reserves the right to add or make changes to initially published deadlines (dates and times) as needed to meet HUD requirements. It is the responsibility of each individual agency to regularly review the documents uploaded on the Collaborative Applicant website (https://tvchomeless.org/cocnofo2024/) to ensure the most up-to-date deadlines are being followed. Local deadlines are detailed below.

TVCoC Local Deadlines

September 4, 2024 – Any agency interested in applying for CoC Bonus funding or Domestic Violence Bonus funding must provide a written request to the Collaborative Applicant Lead detailing intent to apply. Email is an acceptable form of written request.
Collaborative Applicant Lead – Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless Executive Director, Katelyn McGuire | kmcguire@tvceh.org | 865-440-8670

September 20, 2024 – Agency applications due in e-snaps

TBD - Rank and Review Committee will convene to review individual agency applications and create a priority list of all accepted applications.

On or before October 12, 2024 – Any applicants not selected to be included in the Collaboration Application package will be notified in writing.

On or before October 24, 2024 - A draft of the CoC Collaborative Application will be publicly posted for CoC review at https://tvchomeless.org/cocnofo2024/

October 26, 2024 – TVCoC intends to submit the final and approved Collaborative Application in e-snaps. This target date is before the official HUD CoC Program NOFO deadline of October 30, 2024.

Questions and Collaborative Applicant Contact Information

Questions about this opportunity can be directed to the Collaborative Applicant Lead Katelyn McGuire at kmcguire@tvceh.org and 865-440-8670.

TN-512 Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care
2024 CoC Application Scoring and Rating Criteria

The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care seeks to provide a coordinated, inclusive and outcome-oriented community process for the solicitation, objective review, ranking and selection of project applications for inclusion with our CoC Collaborative Application package we submit to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

To score and then rank Continuum of Care project applications, the CoC Ranking and Review panel will use information from project applicant interviews, as well as relevant information from other sources, including but not limited to HMIS, the Coordinated Entry System, HUD LOCCS, CoC Project Applications, SAGE, and Agency Annual Performance Reviews. The Ranking and Review panel will use these scoring factors as well as HUD's CoC rules, regulations and objectives as well as local objectives to make a final determination of the acceptance and rank-order of applications we submit in our Collaborative Application. (Note: Because HMIS is a central CoC activity and is functionally different than direct housing or service projects, its scoring rubric must be somewhat altered from the others to capture its information, and is available in a separate document.)

Agency:
Project Name:
Name, phone, email of contact:

Threshold Questions for New Projects		
Renewal projects are considered as having met these requirements through previously approved grant applications, unless information to the contrary is received.	**Yes**	**No**
Is the applicant seeking funding for an eligible project category?	☐	☐
Does the project meet the threshold requirements for the applicable project category in sections III.C.5.b and III.C.5.c of the 2023 HUD CoC NOFO?	☐	☐

1. Project Administration and Quality Check (10 points total):
☐ Applicant has no outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD Audits ☐ Applicant submitted most recent APR in a timely manner ☐ Applicant completed a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations

☐ New Projects – Applicant has a plan for maintaining HUD grant compliance and completing fiscal audit/evaluation as dictated by HUD and agency regulations

Section 1 points:	**_____ /10**

2. Objective Criteria (53 points total):

Applicant Experience (9 points):

☐ Applicant demonstrates experience with population to be served
☐ Applicant demonstrates experience with proposed programming type
☐ Applicant demonstrates experience with operating and managing a federal grant

Commitment to Housing First (12 points):
Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 12 points.

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the understanding that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life.

☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not "clean and sober" or "treatment compliant"
☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

Cost Effectiveness and Match Funding (12 points):

☐ Applicant can provide the required match for the proposed project
☐ Applicant has not had HUD funding recaptured in the past fiscal year
☐ Application budget explanation is reasonable, allocable, and allowable

System Performance Measures (20 points):

*The extent to which a project furthers CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures, including **at least two** of the following:*
☐ Reducing the number of homeless individuals and families
☐ Reduction in the number of first-time homeless
☐ Length of time homeless
☐ Successful PH placement or retention
☐ Reduction of returns to homelessness
☐ Jobs and income growth

Section 2 points:	**_____ /53**

3. Rapid Return to Permanent Housing and Severity of Barriers Experienced by Program Participants (15 points total):

The ranking and review process involves comparison of different programs that serve different types of individuals and families who are in a variety of different situations. These things can affect the extent to which a given project is able to address the objective system performance measures noted above.

Potential client service and housing barriers to achieving system performance measure goals may include:

☐ Substance Abuse ☐ Mental Illness ☐ Criminal History ☐ Chronic Homelessness
☐ Unsheltered Homelessness ☐ History of domestic violence ☐ Service Resistance
☐ Veteran Status ☐ Income and Employment Status ☐ Covid-19 pandemic
☐ Other (please explain):

☐ Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding how the severity of barriers experienced by project clients may affect the project's ability to achieve certain system performance measure objectives.

Section 3 points: _____ /15

4. Promoting Racial, Ethnic, Gender Experiential Equity (10 points total):

☐ Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding barriers they have identified to reaching persons of different races, ethnicities or gender orientation.
☐ Applicant clearly describes what steps they have taken or plan to take to eliminate those identified barriers.
☐ Applicant has reasonable and adequate input from people with lived experience from marginalized groups over-represented in the local homelessness population on their agency board and for program design and operation.

Section 4 points: _____ /10

5. Community Collaboration (12 points total):

☐ Applicant participates or has a plan to participate in TVCoC HMIS
☐ Applicant participates or has a plan to participate in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System
☐ Applicant is an active member in good standing in the TVCoC

Section 5 points: _____ /12

TOTAL POINTS: _____ /100

Additional Comments:

Recommendations for Future Funding Requests:

TN-512 Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care
2024 CoC _HMIS_ Application Scoring and Rating Criteria

The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care seeks to provide a coordinated, inclusive and outcome-oriented community process for the solicitation, objective review, ranking and selection of project applications for inclusion with our CoC Collaborative Application package we submit to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

To score and then rank Continuum of Care project applications, the CoC Ranking and Review panel will use information from project applicant interviews, as well as relevant information from other sources, including but not limited to HMIS, the Coordinated Entry System, HUD LOCCS, CoC Project Applications, SAGE, and Agency Annual Performance Reviews. The Ranking and Review panel will use these scoring factors as well as HUD's CoC rules, regulations and objectives as well as local objectives to make a final determination of the acceptance and rank-order of applications we submit in our Collaborative Application.

In the past, the Rank and Review Committee has assigned the same score to both HMIS applications*

Agency:	
Project Name:	
Name, phone, email of contact:	

Threshold Questions for New Projects		
Renewal projects are considered as having met these requirements through previously approved grant applications, unless information to the contrary is received.	**Yes**	**No**
Is the applicant seeking funding for an eligible project category?	☐	☐
Does the project meet the threshold requirements for the applicable project category in sections III.C.5.b and III.C.5.c of the 2024 HUD CoC NOFO?	☐	☐

1. Project Administration and Quality Check (10 points total):
☐ Applicant has no outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD Audits ☐ Applicant submitted most recent APR in a timely manner

☐ Applicant completed a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations ☐ New Projects – Applicant has a plan for maintaining HUD grant compliance and completing fiscal audit/evaluation as dictated by HUD and agency regulations		

	Section 1 points: _____ /10

2. Objective Criteria (65 points total):

Applicant Experience (8 points):

☐ Applicant demonstrates experience with population to be served
☐ Applicant demonstrates experience with proposed programming type
☐ Applicant demonstrates experience with operating and managing a federal grant

Commitment to Housing First (12 points):
Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 12 points.

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the understanding that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life. Below are is a checklist adopted from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to determine if the project is operating under Housing First policies.

☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not "clean and sober" or "treatment compliant"
☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
☐ Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

Cost Effectiveness and Match Funding (10 points):

☐ Applicant can provide the required match for the proposed project
☐ Applicant has not had HUD funding recaptured in the past fiscal year
☐ Application budget explanation is reasonable, allocable, and allowable

System Performance Measures (35 points):

The extent to which an HMIS project furthers CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures:	Yes	No
Did the HMIS Lead submit complete Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data in a timely manner?	☐	☐
Did the HMIS Lead submit complete Point in Time Count (PIT) data in a timely manner?	☐	☐

Did the HMIS Lead engage youth serving organizations and youth experiencing homelessness in the PIT count planning process?	☐	☐
Did the HMIS Lead include youth experiencing homelessness in the actual count?	☐	☐
Does the HMIS Lead have in place, or is it developing or coordinating a comparable database with DV providers to collect required data element for reporting de-identified information to the CoC?	☐	☐
Is the HMIS Bed Coverage Rate for housing types within the CoC that includes emergency shelter, Safe Haven, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing above 85%?	☐	☐
Did the HMIS Lead submit the complete Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) data in a timely manner?	☐	☐
	Section 2 points: _____ **/65**	

3. Promoting Racial, Ethnic, Gender Experiential Equity (10 points total):

☐ Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding barriers they have identified to reaching persons of different races, ethnicities, gender expression, or sexual orientation

☐ Applicant clearly describes what steps they have taken or plan to take to eliminate those identified barriers

☐ Applicant has reasonable and adequate input from people with lived experience on their agency board and for program design and operation

Section 3 points: _____ **/10**	

4. Community Collaboration (15 points total):

☐ Applicant participates in TVCoC HMIS

☐ Applicant participates in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System

☐ Applicant is an active member in good standing in the TVCoC

Section 4 points: _____ **/15**
TOTAL POINTS: _____ **/100**

Additional Comments:

Recommendations for Future Applications: