



# Continuum of Care NOFA Information

## July 21, 2017 (REVISED 7/31/17)

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## HUD CoC FY2017 Competition

### NOFA Release Summary and Timeline UT-500 Salt Lake City & County Continuum of Care

## **Background**

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The CoC Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Each year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releases a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), signifying the beginning of a funding competition among approximately 400 Continuums of Care (CoC), the community stakeholder groups that guide local responses to homelessness. The FY2017 Competition CoC NOFA was released on July 14, 2017, opening the federal competition and making available approximately \$2 billion to serve homeless people nationally. The information in the NOFA sets forth the HUD competition rules and processes for 2017. This summary includes the highlights of the NOFA.

Before the application is submitted to HUD, the CoC is required to hold a local competition to determine which projects will be included in the consolidated application, along with their relative priority. The results of the local competition dictates which projects the CoC will seek funding for. Additional details about anything in this summary can be found in the NOFA, available at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5419/fy-2017-coc-program-nofa/>

## **Highlights of this Year's NOFA**

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- HUD has provided a document summarizing highlights of this year's NOFA, available at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/fy-2017-coc-program-competition-nofa-whats-new-changes-and-highlights.pdf>
- The NOFA and scoring criteria are very focused on HUD's Policy priorities and goals, including: 1) ending homelessness for all persons; 2) creating a system response to homelessness; 3) strategically allocating and using resources and 4) use of a Housing First approach.
- The Permanent Housing Bonus, up to 6% of annual renewal demand, is available to create multiple projects and can be used for either (1) new permanent supportive housing projects that will exclusively serve chronically homeless individuals and families or (2) rapid re-housing projects that will serve individuals, families or unaccompanied youth who come directly from the streets, emergency shelters, or are fleeing domestic violence or other persons who meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless.

- As in past years, the funding that CoCs can apply for is divided into tiers, with projects prioritized in Tier 1 being more likely to be funded than projects of lower priority that fall in Tier 2.
- Projects in Tier 2 will be selected and funded based on a score related to: overall CoC score, the project's ranked order, and Housing First implementation.
- CoCs are expected to critically evaluate projects for ranking purposes
- Tier 2 will be equal to 6% of annual renewal demand plus 6% of annual renewal demand
- Bonus projects will be ranked and reviewed by HUD in the same way as other projects; there is not a separate pool of funding
- Among projects eligible to apply for new funding is a new project component type. The Joint TH and PH-RRH component project includes two existing program components– transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing–in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

## **HUD Policy Priorities**

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1. Ending homelessness for all persons.
  - a. CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness.
  - b. CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that take into account the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area (e.g., veterans, youth, families, or those experiencing chronic homelessness).
  - c. CoCs should have a comprehensive outreach strategy in place to identify and continuously engage all unsheltered individuals and families.
  - d. Additionally, CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.
  - e. Finally, CoCs should use the reallocation process to create new projects that improve their overall performance and better respond to their needs.
2. Creating a systemic response to homelessness.
  - a. CoCs should be using system performance measures such as the average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, and rates of exit to permanent housing destinations to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness.
  - b. Additionally, CoCs should be using their Coordinated Entry process to promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing and services to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent.
3. Strategically allocating and using resources.
  - a. Using cost, performance, and outcome data, CoCs should improve how resources are utilized to end homelessness.
  - b. CoCs should review project quality, performance, and cost effectiveness.
  - c. HUD also encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources when serving persons experiencing homelessness.

- d. Finally, CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2017 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness as well as their cost effectiveness.
4. Use a Housing First approach.
    - a. Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions.
    - b. CoC Program funded projects should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing, and the CoC should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness.
    - c. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners, remove barriers to entry, and adopt client-centered service methods.

## **Available Funding for Our CoC**

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HUD determines the maximum award for which each CoC is eligible, determined by a combination of factors. This year, in our CoC, our eligible application amounts are as follows:

- Estimated Annual Renewal Demand: \$7,082,121
  - This funding can be used to fund eligible renewal projects, in whole or in part, or can be reallocated to new projects.
- Estimated Tier 1 Funding: \$6,657,194
- Estimated Tier 2 Finding: \$849,854
  - Calculated as the difference between Estimated Annual Renewal Demand and Estimated Tier 1 Funding, plus amount available for bonus funding.
  - Estimated Permanent Housing Bonus Funding: \$424,927
- Estimated Planning Funding: \$212,464

## **HUD Deadlines and Timeline**

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### **July 14, 2017**

2017 CoC NOFA is released.

### **July 20, 2017**

A report that lists each CoCs ARD Tier 1 amount, and permanent housing bonus amount available posted to the HUD Exchange website.

### **No later than September 26, 2017**

Each CoC must post the CoC Consolidated Application (i.e. the CoC Application and CoC Priority Listing) on its website (or a partner website) and notify community members and key stakeholders that it is available.

**September 28, 2017, 8 p.m. eastern time**

Deadline for submission

**Winter/Spring**

HUD to issue up to two conditional funding announcement for all projects.

**September 30, 2019**

Statutory deadlines for obligation of grant funds.

## **Salt Lake County Timeline**

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**No later than August 3, 2017**

RFP for NEW applications, renewal HMIS, and Planning projects released

**August 22, 2017 by 5:00 PM**

Responses to NEW, renewal HMIS and Planning projects RFP due

**August 18, 2017 by 5:00 PM**

Deadline for renewal applications to be submitted in e-snaps.

**August 18, 2017-September 13, 2017**

Independent reviewing and scoring of new and renewal projects

**No later than September 13, 2017**

Recommended ranking of projects announced to stakeholders (posted to <http://slco.org/homeless-services/fy2017-coc-competition/>). Appeals process of ranked application begins.

**September 28, 2017**

NOFA submitted by 8 p.m. eastern time CoC Consolidated Application and CoC Priority Listing posted at <http://slco.org/homeless-services/fy2017-coc-competition/>

*These deadlines have been established in accordance with Section J. Local Competition Deadlines within the FY2017 CoC Program NOFA.*

## **Application Structure**

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The CoC Consolidated Application is made up of three parts:

- **CoC Collaborative Application:** Will be scored by HUD out of a possible 200 points and cover the following categories: CoC Coordination and Engagement (43 points), Project Ranking, Review, and Capacity (29

points), Homeless Management Information System (13 points), Point-in-Time Count (6 points), System Performance (49 points), and Performance and Strategic Planning (60 points)

- **Project Applications**
- **CoC Priority Listing:** Ranks projects in order of priority and identifies any project applications rejected by the CoC

## Ranking Information

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CoCs will be required to rank all projects submitted by project applicants, except CoC planning projects. Ranked projects will include renewal projects, new projects created through reallocation, and permanent housing bonus projects. All projects must pass HUD's eligibility and threshold requirements to be funded, no matter their priority.

### Tier 1

The amount of funding available for Tier 1 is equal to 94 percent of the CoC's annual renewal demand. HUD will conditionally award projects from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC. Projects should be placed in priority order.

### Tier 2

The amount of funding available for Tier 2 is equal to the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's annual renewal demand plus any amount available for the permanent housing bonus (although the bonus project(s) may be placed in Tier 1 or Tier 2).

All Tier 2 projects will be funded in point order established by HUD in the NOFA. Tier 2 points are awarded as follows:

- **CoC Score:** Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the CoC score
- **CoC Ranking:** Up to 40 points for the CoC's ranking of the project application(s), with the 40 points spread evenly across the Tier 2 funding amount. Higher ranked projects get more points
- **Commitment to Policy Priorities:** Up to 10 points for Housing First commitment

### Straddling Tiers

Any projects that straddle the two tiers, the process for funding them is the same as previous years. The Tier 1 portion will be funded in accordance with Tier 1 processes and the Tier 2 portion will be funded in accordance with Tier 2 processes. HUD may award project funds for just the Tier 1 portion, provided the project is still feasible with the reduced funding (e.g. is able to continue serving homeless program participants effectively). This change reduces the incentive to move projects out of priority in order to utilize the full Tier 1 amount.

## Resources

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HUD FY2017 CoC Competition: Web page

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2017-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

SLCO FY2017 CoC Competition web page

<http://slco.org/homeless-services/fy2017-coc-competition/>

CoC Program Interim Rule (24 CFR part 578)

[https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramInterimRule\\_FormattedVersion.pdf](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramInterimRule_FormattedVersion.pdf)

HUD Training Resources

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/>

HUD Listserv

<https://www.hudexchange.info/mailinglist/>