

## **Public Notice**

### **Request for Proposals from Renewal and New Project Applicants**

#### **Introduction**

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) makes funds available for projects that provide housing and services to individuals and families who experience homelessness through the Continuum of Care Program Competition. HUD released the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for FY 2019 on July 3, 2019. The NOFA is available [here](#). HUD requires CoCs to review and rank local proposals and submit a consolidated application to HUD through a HUD-approved Collaborative Applicant. The Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care (NWA-CoC) is the local Collaborative Applicant.

This notice from the NWA-CoC is to inform housing and service providers in Northwest Arkansas (Benton, Carroll, Madison and Washington Counties) of the opportunity to apply through the NWA-CoC for these HUD funds and explain the process we will use to review, rank and submit renewal and new local proposals. Applicants are expected to review the full NOFA from HUD in addition to this document.

#### **Renewal projects**

Only projects listed in the FY 2019 Grants Inventory Worksheet (GIW) will be eligible for renewal funding. HUD uses data from the *e-snaps* and LOCS systems to generate the GIW for each CoC's jurisdiction. They are posted by HUD [here](#) and available by email upon request.

For FY 2018 HUD has created new mechanisms for currently funded agencies to (1) consolidate multiple grants of the same program type and (2) transition from one program type to a different program type. See the NOFA for greater details on both options.

In order to respond to this year's NOFA efficiently and maximize available funding for our region, agencies with currently funded projects listed on the GIW must use the Intent Regarding Eligible Renewal Program Form to notify the NWA-CoC of their intent to 1) renew the project at the maximum possible level (94% of total current ARA), 2) renew the project at a reduced level, 3) use the Transition Grant mechanism to transition to a new eligible project, or 4) release the funds for reallocation.

#### **Reallocation**

HUD has created a mechanism for CoCs to reallocate funds in whole or in part from existing, eligible renewal projects in order to create one or more new project(s) without decreasing the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). Such reallocations can be initiated by the CoC due to underperformance or changes in local needs and priorities/strategies. See section III. B. 3. q of the FY 2018 NOFA for greater details.

#### **New projects**

Proposals for any new project eligible under the FY 2019 will be reviewed. In addition to funds available through are Annual Renewal Demand, we anticipate being able to compete for approximately \$197,691 in Bonus dollars for any eligible project that fits within the CoC's funding priorities in the document located [here](#).

Additionally, HUD has created a Domestic Violence Bonus funding opportunity this year. Our region anticipates being able to compete for approximately \$111,420 this year. The NOFA allows funding of new projects with DV Bonus funds in three areas. See Section II.B.3 of the NOFA (pp. 7-8) for details on DV Bonus eligible projects.

**Eligibility**

Nonprofit organizations, states, local governments and instrumentalities of state or local governments are eligible to apply for grants under the CoC program (24 CFR 578.15). Public housing agencies, as defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. However, for-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be sub recipients of grant funds. Additional eligibility requirements and details are listed in Section V. of the FY 2019 NOFA.

**Rank and Review Committee**

The Rank and Review Committee is chaired by John Gallagher, Vice-Chair of the NWA-CoC, and is comprised of members of the CoC who are neither employees nor board members of agencies seeking funding under the 2019 NOFA. They will conduct an unbiased review, using the criteria on the NWA-CoC FY 2019 Scoring Rubrics.

**Application Process and Timeline:**

July 3, 2019	FY 2017 NOFA released by HUD
July 30, 2019	This Public Notice released by NWA-CoC
August 9, 2019	Deadline for <b>new projects and renewal projects (listed on the GIW and eligible for renewal)</b> to submit a <i>Letter of Intent for any new project and for each renewal project</i> . Submit via google form <a href="#">Link Here</a>
August 21, 2019	Deadline for all <b>projects (new and renewal)</b> to submit the Local Application <u>for each</u> project and eligible renewal project. Submit via email to both John Gallagher ( <a href="mailto:johngallagherasu@gmail.com">johngallagherasu@gmail.com</a> ) as the Chair of the Rank and Review Committee and Steve Burt ( <a href="mailto:steve@nwacoc.com">steve@nwacoc.com</a> ) as the Executive Director of the NWA-CoC.
August 23, 2019	Collaborative Applicant completes its threshold review of all applications and distributes eligible applications to the members of the Grants Review Committee.
September 3, 2019	Deadline for Grants Review Committee to have conducted final review, completed scoring of projects, and prioritized project rankings for submission to the NWA-CoC Board for review and approval.
September 4, 2019	Deadline for NWA-CoC Board to have reviewed the recommendations of the Grants Review Committee, approved the Project Priority Rankings for inclusion in the NWA-CoC Consolidated Application and to have notified all applicants of their ranking. This notification will happen via email and will explain any adverse decisions (if necessary).
September 11, 2019	Deadline for applicants to have submitted final version of their project(s) application via <i>e-snaps</i> and to have provided any outstanding MOUs regarding match and leverage or proof of compliance with DUNS and SAM requirements.

September 13, 2019	Deadline for the NWA-CoC to post Consolidated Application, including attachments and Priority Listing on NWA-CoC website for public review.
September 30, 2019	Deadline for submission of the consolidated application via <i>e-snaps</i> from the NWA-CoC to HUD.

### Appeals

An eligible organization may appeal a decision of either the NWA-CoC or HUD that the organization perceives as unfavorable and unfair.

- An eligible organization may submit an appeal to the NWA-CoC Board of Directors if it objects to their proposal's 1) rejection, 2) reduction in amount requested of HUD, or 3) ranking relative to other projects. To do so, the organization must file a written appeal with the NWA-CoC board within three (3) business days of their receipt of the NWA-CoC's decision. The appeal should be submitted to Cynthia Cochran, Secretary of NWA-CoC Board via [ciecochran5@gmail.com](mailto:ciecochran5@gmail.com). The appeal must provide reason for disagreement and may only be based on the information originally submitted to the NWA-CoC. No new or additional information will be considered. The NWA-CoC Board will render a decision within three (3) business days.
- An eligible organization that feels it was prevented from participating in the CoC planning process for FY 2019 funds, may appeal the NWA-CoC's decision not to include their project application in the Priority Listing to HUD. To do so, the organization must submit a Solo Application for funding to HUD in e-snaps by the application submission deadline of September 30, 2019 by 8:00 p.m. eastern time. See Section X of the 2018 NOFA and 24 CFR 578.35 for further details.
- An eligible organization whose application was submitted to HUD as part of the NWA-CoC application, but had that application denied or reduced by HUD may appeal that decision to HUD. See Section X of the 2019 NOFA and 24 CFR 578.35 for further details.

### Technical assistance

In order to present HUD with the most comprehensive funding package, the NWA-CoC will offer one on one technical assistance session to interested organizations. Please email [steve@nwacoc.com](mailto:steve@nwacoc.com) for such assistance (without limitation).

### Additional information and resources for all applicants

The primary goal of this public notice from the NWA-CoC is to summarize how HUD's national priorities and processes will be implemented locally. Although it also contains some summary of the underlying federal requirements, all applicants are expected to thoroughly review resources directly available from HUD. Key resources include:

- The FY 2019 NOFA for the Continuum of Care Program Competition is available [here](#).
- HUD-prepared summary on changes in FY 2019 NOFA is available [here](#).
- The Interim Rule issued by HUD on July 31, 2012 to implement the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009. This rule (24 CFR part 578) governs the Continuum of Care Program and is available [here](#).
- HUD provides email updates on a variety of topics and programs, including the Continuum of Care program. You can sign up [here](#).

- HUD provides resources on the *e-snaps* system [here](#).
- HUD provides resources on obtaining a DUNS Number and registering with the System for Award Management (SAM) [here](#).
- Applicants who cannot access the above hyperlinks for any reason can locate all resources through <https://www.hudexchange.info/>