2024 HUD Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care NOFO - Local Competition Frequently Asked Questions Last Updated August 28, 2024

PHASE 2 QUESTIONS

SCORING FACTORS

Our agency received partial points for one of the grants administration factors. We have provided an explanation. Will the SRT determine if we can gain back some of the lost points?

Yes. If your agency lost points on any or all of the grants administration factors, you may provide an explanation for the SRT and they may award some of the point(s) back. Some organizations provided this explanation during Phase 1 of the competition. You also have the option of providing the explanation during Phase 2. This material will be shared with the SRT during their review. The maximum number of points that they can award back is listed in the Scoring Factors and the Instruction Guide on the <u>Help Hope Home website</u>.

Was pre-scoring completed for new projects, or only renewals?

Pre-scoring was only complete for renewal projects, as it is based upon objective factors and data gathered from a completed year of program performance.

How do I access the pre-scores for my agency's renewal grants?

Your agency received pre-score information for all renewal projects after Phase 1 closed. If you cannot find that information, please send an inquiry to <u>HelpHopeHome@ClarkCountyNV.gov</u> with "2024 NOFO" in the subject line and your pre-scoring information can be resent. Please note that, since the NOFO was released, the scoring factors have been finalized and you can now translate your pre-score information into actual point values by using the Scoring Factors on the <u>Help Hope Home website</u>.

BUDGET/BUDGET FORMS

Can you confirm that renewal projects do not need to submit a budget form in Zoomgrants?

That is correct. Renewal projects will only submit their budget information in eSNAPS.

The Bidders' Conference presentation noted that renewal grants will receive a Cost-of-Living Adjustment this year. How is this reflected if we do not submit budget forms? HUD will adjust program budgets after the competition and the COLA will be reflected in the awards. Grantees do not need to apply for them.

My organization is applying for the DV Bonus to operate a RRH program. Which budget form should I use?

All RRH programs – including those applying for the DV Bonus – should use the RRH budget form.

MATCH FUNDING/LETTERS

How do I know if funding can be used as cash match for a CoC program?

Match funding is the share of costs that the recipient is required to contribute to accomplish the purposes of the grant. All costs paid for with matching funds must be for activities that are eligible under the CoC Program, even if the recipient is not receiving CoC Program grant funds for that activity. All grant funds must be matched with an amount no less than 25 percent of the awarded grant amount (excluding the amount awarded to the leasing budget line item) with cash or in-kind resources. Match resources may be from public (not statutorily prohibited by the funding agency from being used as a match) or private resources.

Match may not be double counted, i.e., used as a match for any other federally assisted project or program. CoC funding and match funding should be integrated into one program budget and funds used as cash match should be documented clearly in your accounting records. HUD has provided extensive information about match requirements and documentation on their <u>website</u>.

What should be included in a match letter?

When the source of match is *cash*, written documentation should be provided on the source agency's letterhead, signed, and dated by an authorized representative, and, at a minimum, should include the following:

- 1. Amount of cash to be provided to the recipient for the project
- 2. Specific date the cash will be made available
- 3. The actual grant and fiscal year to which the cash match will be contributed
- 4. Time period during which funding will be available
- 5. Allowable activities to be funded by the cash match

Written documentation of the donation of *in-kind goods and/or equipment* must be provided on the source agency's letterhead, signed, and dated by an authorized representative of the source agency, and must, at a minimum, include the following:

- 1. Value of donated goods to be provided to the recipient for the project
- 2. Specific date the goods will be made available
- 3. The actual grant and fiscal year to which the match will be contributed
- 4. Time period during which the donation will be available
- 5. Allowable activities to be provided by the donation
- 6. Value of commitments of land, buildings, and equipment the value of these items is one-time only and cannot be claimed by more than one project or by the same project in another year

For in-kind match of *services*, the recipient/subrecipient must enter into a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the agency providing the in-kind service(s) and must establish a system to document the actual value of services provided during the term of the grant. A recipient or subrecipient may use a letter from the partner agency to document the commitment to provide the in-kind service in advance of executing a formal MOU, for instance, if the recipient/subrecipient opts to wait to execute an MOU upon receipt of notification of award from HUD. The MOU may be between a recipient or a subrecipient and another agency, but the terms must be described in the MOU.

HUD has provided extensive information about match requirements and documentation on their <u>website</u>.

APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

If an attachment is not marked as "Required," do we have to include it?

Only if it is applicable to your program. Some of the attachments are only applicable to certain programs and not required for all programs. Please review all potential attachments to ensure that you attach any that apply to your program.

LOCAL COMPETITION TIMELINE

Do we know what time the public presentation of the Priority List will be on October 2? The time is not final but please block 9 AM – 12 noon on October 2 if you wish to attend the presentation of the Priority List. Please note that the SRT may need the first portion of the meeting to finalize their activities, so the public component of the meeting may start after 9. This information will be updated as the schedule is finalized.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Can you clarify the checklists in Questions 24 and 25 about the Housing First approach? This are both questions drawn from the HUD application in eSNAPS. They are intended to confirm your program's adherence to the Housing First philosophy. For question 24, checking the box next to any of the specified barriers confirms that your program <u>will</u> enroll participants with those barriers. Checking the box next to "None of the Above" confirms that your program <u>will not</u> accept participants with those barriers. For question 25, checking the box next to the various potential reasons for termination indicates that your program <u>will not</u> terminate participants for those reasons. Checking the box for "None of the Above" indicates that you program <u>will</u> terminate participants for the specified reasons.

Can you clarify Questions 30 and 31 about leverage?

HUD awards extra points to Continuums of Care that submit project applications that leverage non-CoC housing resources and health systems resources. They provide more detail about this in pages 106-107 of the <u>NOFO</u>. The SNHCoC local competition thus prioritizes projects that successfully leverage these, such as (but not limited to) other types of housing vouchers or services from healthcare systems or providers. In order to receive points for these types of leverage, the leverage commitments must meet the requirements outlined by HUD in the NOFO. To receive full points, the resources must be documented (with an MOU, contract, commitment letter, or similarly robust documentation).

In the Attachments, new projects are asked to attach a report with performance data from a comparable project. Is this required?

Yes. Please attach a report that shows the performance of another program that your agency operates, so that the SRT can better understand your agency's work. If your organization receives CoC funding, this report can be a recent Annual Performance Report of your choice. It does not need to be the same program type, but it should demonstrate the types of outcomes that your agency achieves as well as your ability to collect and report on program data.

PHASE 1 QUESTIONS

(Updated May 20, 2024)

Do the projects funded under last year's Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (SNOFO) need to apply as renewals during this year's NOFO competition?

No, those are 3-year grants. We expect that they will renew in the next competition, and we will be in close communication with grantees to ensure that they know when their projects are up for renewal.

Can a project funded under SNOFO ask for funding from this process?

Yes. You can apply as a new project, and it must align with all other NOFO requirements, including being an eligible project type and conducting eligible activities.

Our agency was awarded a new grant last year. How do we know if must submit a renewal project this year?

When your program is up for renewal the first time depends upon when your initial contract was executed with HUD. It varies by program. Please reach out to us individually and we can work with you to determine if a renewal application should be submitted.

Our agency only has financials that have not been audited. Can we submit an unaudited financial statement with our Phase 1 application, or is there any alternative file that we can submit for that portion?

Per 2CFR200, subpart F, a non-Federal entity that expends \$750,000 or more during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards must have a single audit. A non-Federal entity that expends less than \$750,000 during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards is exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in <u>§ 200.503</u>, but records must be available for review or audit by appropriate officials of the Federal agency, pass-through entity, and Government Accountability Office (GAO). If your agency expends less than \$750,000, you can document that in a statement and upload that as your attachment.

Even if your agency is currently exempt from the audit requirement, any agency seeking CoC funds should have a robust financial management system with appropriate internal controls, as there are significant financial reporting and documentation requirements associated with CoC funding.

In the CoC Membership Meeting, it was noted that supportive services can be funded with NOFO funding but they must be "connected to housing." Can you define "connected to housing?"

"Connected to housing" means services are provided to participants living in the housing provided by the project. CoC funding cannot be used for projects that provide supportive services that are not provided alongside housing (such as street-level outreach, drop-in services, outpatient behavioral health services, or case management that is not offered with housing).

If we apply as a Rapid Rehousing program, can we include supportive services in our budget, or is rental assistance the only allowable cost?

CoC funds can be used to fund supportive services such as housing search and housing stabilization/case management as part of a rapid rehousing program, as long as the program also offers rental assistance.