

2021 CONTINUUM OF CARE NOFA

NEW Application Scoring Criteria & Tool – 100 points possible + 20 Bonus Points

Project Name:	Project Reviewer Name:
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Housing/Project Type + Housing First (5 points possible) (System Performance Measurement (SPM) 2)			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			Score
5 points for bonus and/or reallocation projects that follow a Housing First approach and are a new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) project.			
4 points for bonus and/or reallocation projects that follow a Housing First approach and are a new Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Project .			
4 points for new Domestic Violence (DV) bonus projects that follow a Housing First approach and are: (a) RRH projects or (2) Joint Transitional Housing and RRH projects (Joint TH-RRH)			
2.5 points for bonus and/or reallocation projects that follow a Housing First approach and are a Joint TH-RRH (non-DV Bonus) project.			
0 points for all other projects or for projects that do not follow a Housing First approach.			
Possible Points for Project Type:	5	Actual Points for Project Type:	

Consistency with providing services during COVID-19 (5 points possible)			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			
Award points based on the agency's explanation of their response during the COVID-19 pandemic. Consider whether they were able to continue services to participants and whether there was anything extra the agency did to meet the need during the pandemic.			
Possible Points for COVID-19 Response:	5	Actual Points for COVID-19 Response:	

Project Quality, Readiness & Appropriateness (10 points possible) (SPMs 7b.1, 7b.2, Ready to Start: SPMs 3.1, 3.2)			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			
<p>Award points based on the project's explanation of its design and mix of services and/or housing. Consider whether services/housing are appropriate for serving the population it intends to serve. For housing, consider: (4 pts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the project will house people; • The type of housing- how the layout/features will match the needs of the clients the project intends to serve; • Whether the location of housing will be accessible to people with disabilities; • Whether the housing will help maximize client choice in the Continuum of Care by providing rare or unique types of housing options that are not currently available (e.g., pet friendly housing, housing with elevators, parking, etc.). <p>Award points based on the project's explanation of how and when it will have site control (title, lease, etc.). (4 pts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If site control is not already obtained, will the project employ housing locators or provide landlord incentive or support funds to assist with obtaining site control? If no, consider how the project will obtain control of a housing site or find housing for clients. <p>Award points based on the project's explanation for when housing occupancy and/or services will begin. (2 pts)</p>			
Possible Points for Project Quality, Readiness & Appropriateness:	10	Actual Points for Project Quality, Readiness & Appropriateness:	

Program Goals and Program Design (25 points possible) (SPMs 1.1, 1.2, 2, 4, 5.1, 5.2) **Not for DV-Bonus Projects, see DV-Bonus section below**			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			
<p>For New PSH, RRH, and Joint TH-RRH Projects Only (Non-DV Bonus Projects): Award points based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program goals to be measured annually (4 pts): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How participants will be helped to obtain/remain in permanent housing (SPMs 1.1, 1.2) ○ How participants will be helped to increase skills, income, employment, and live independently (SPMs 4, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5) <p>Up to 3 points each:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The types and frequency of services participants will receive; (SPM 4) • How the project will ensure new participants are eligible for this project's program type based on their housing and disability status; • The project's commitment to participate in CARS coordinated entry; (SPMs 1.1, 1.2) • The project's commitment to Housing First principles; (SPM 2) • The project's commitment to getting input and feedback from homeless and formerly homeless clients and how that feedback is used; • The project's commitment to Equal Access and Fair Housing principles; (SPMs 1.1, 1.2) • The project's commitment to entering timely and accurate data for all CoC funded beds into HMIS (SPMs 5.1, 5.2) 			
Possible Points for Program Goals and Design:	25	Actual Possible Points for Program Goals and Design:	

DV-Bonus Program Goals and Program Design (25 points possible) ** DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BONUS FUNDING APPLICANTS ONLY**

CoC Evaluation Criteria (Use this section **instead of the previous page** if the project will be dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence. For all scoring purposes, “domestic violence” also includes dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or trafficking).

For New DV Bonus RRH and Joint TH-RRH Projects Only:

Award points if the project adequately summarizes all four of the following **(4 pts)**:

- A description of the local **need** for DV-related housing and services, e.g., how many people need support;
- The local **resources** for DV-related housing and services, e.g., what services are already offered;
- A quantitative estimate of the size of the **gap** between local resources and local need;
- A quantitative estimate of how the proposed project will reduce that gap

Award points if the project adequately summarizes how it will use **housing first, victim-centered, and trauma-informed approaches (5 pts)**:

- All DV Bonus housing projects must use a **housing first approach** and also explain how the services that will be offered are **trauma-informed and victim-centered**. To earn additional points, projects should include a description of how the project’s services will differ from ordinary supportive services for the general homeless population, and an estimate of the number of hours and/or the level of training that the program’s staff have received in delivering trauma-informed, victim-centered services.

Award points based on the **previous performance** of the applicant in serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking **(3 pts)**.

Award points if the project **(5 pts)**:

- Articulates a specific plan for ensuring that its residents will be safe from further domestic violence.
- Uses facilities with specialized features that will **enhance the safety** of domestic violence survivors.
- Uses staff who have been specially trained in promoting the safety of domestic violence survivors.
- Sets **quantitative safety targets** that are appropriate and realistic and explains why it is likely to be able to achieve the targeted safety outcomes.
- Can **present objective data that shows how they improve participant safety**.

Award points for the project’s explanation of **(8 pts total, up to 2 points for each bullet)**:

- How participants will be helped to **increase skills, income, employment, and live independently**;
- The project’s commitment to participate in CARS **coordinated entry**;
- The project’s commitment to **Equal Access and Fair Housing** principles;
- The project’s commitment to entering **timely and accurate data** for all CoC funded beds into a comparable database

Possible Points for DV Bonus Program Goals and Program Design:

25

Actual Points for DV Bonus Program Goals and Program Design

Agency/Collaborative Capacity (10 points possible) (SPM 2)

CoC Evaluation Criteria

Award points based on the **specific type and length of experience** of all organizations involved in implementing the proposed project, including the project sponsor, housing and supportive service providers, and any key subcontractors. Consider evaluating experience directly related to their role in the proposed project as well as their overall experience working with homeless people. Consider the project's experience with:

- **Similar sized grants**, including the grant amounts and total percent drawn down from those grants;
- **State or federal government grants**;
- Providing **detailed timesheets** for funders that detail the hours worked by each staff person each week on different activities and projects;
- Providing **detailed eligibility** documentation to a funder that shows what assistance each client received and why that client was qualified to receive that assistance.

For projects contracting for and overseeing the construction or rehabilitation of housing, leasing, or administering rental assistance, evaluate that experience, as applicable.

Possible Points for Agency/Collaborative Capacity:	10	Actual Points for Agency/Collaborative:	
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Improving Safety and Victim-centered / Trauma-informed Services (5 points possible)

CoC Evaluation Criteria

Award points based on a project's description of their ability to provide **victim-centered / trauma-informed services** to and **improve safety** for those fleeing or victimized by domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or human trafficking.

Possible Points for victim-centered / trauma-informed services, improving safety:	5	Actual Points for victim-centered / trauma-informed services, improving safety:	
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Chronicity, Special Populations, and Severe Needs (15 points possible) (SPMs 1.1, 1.2)

CoC Evaluation Criteria

Award points based on the project's description of their ability to serve chronically homeless individuals, other special populations and clients with severe needs, including:

- **Special Populations:** Chronically Homeless Individuals, homeless youth (under 25), domestic violence survivors, homeless families with children, and/or homeless veterans (in order to get points for this factor based on serving the chronically homeless population, a PSH project must check the box for DedicatedPLUS or 100% Dedicated in e-SNAPs). **(5 pts)**
- **Severe Needs and Vulnerabilities:** low or no income, current or past substance abuse, a history of victimization such as domestic violence or sexual assault, criminal histories, mental illness, HIV/AIDS, and/or chronic homelessness. **(5 pts)**

Award **5 points** for projects that are serving **chronically homeless** individuals.

Possible Points for Chronicity, Special Populations, Severe Needs:	15	Actual Points for Chronicity, Special Populations, Severe Needs:	
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Mainstream Resources (10 points possible) (SPMs 4.2, 4.5)

CoC Evaluation Criteria

Award points if the project adequately explains how its services will individually assist each client to **obtain mainstream benefits** from the health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply. Consider the project's specific plan to coordinate and integrate with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs and ensure that program participants are assisted to obtain benefits. **(5 pts).**

Award points based on **which of the following strategy programs** the project will use to help clients access federal mainstream benefits **(5 pts, see scale below):**

- Medicaid
- State Children's Health Insurance Program
- TANF (CalWORKS); Food Stamps
- SSI
- Workforce Investment Act
- Employment Income
- Welfare to Work Grant Programs
- Veterans Health Care

Points will be allocated as follows:

- Award 5 points for 7-8 of the above strategies used.
- Award 3 points for 4-6 of the above strategies used.
- Award 1 point for 1-3 of the above strategies used.
- Award 0 points for 0 of the above strategies used.

Possible Points for Mainstream Resources	10	Actual Points for Mainstream Resources:	
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Budget and Cost Effectiveness (10 points possible) (SPMs 3.1, 3.2)

CoC Evaluation Criteria

Award points based on whether the **project budget is clearly articulated**, with no unnecessary or unexplained items.

Consider:

- Does the budget show that the project will have **enough resources** to provide high-quality, reliable services to the target population? **(3 pts)**
- Does the budget show that the project will **match/leverage** significant outside resources (funding, staff, building space, volunteers, etc.) rather than rely entirely on CoC funds? Are the outside sources realistic? **(3 pts)**
- Does the budget only attempt to use HUD funding on **eligible expenses**? **(2 pts)**
- Does the budget show that the project is taking appropriate measures to promote **cost effectiveness**? **(2 pts)**

For expansion projects, panelists may also consider the efficient use of funds factors of the renewal project application that is proposed for expansion.

Possible Points for Budget and Cost Effectiveness:

10

Actual Points for Budget and Cost Effectiveness:

Addressing Racial Disparities (5 points possible)

CoC Evaluation Criteria

Award 3 points based on the degree to which **the project has identified any barriers to participation** (e.g., lack of outreach) **faced by persons of different races and ethnicities**, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take **steps to eliminate the identified barriers**.

Award 2 points based on the agency's description of how they Project demonstrates a **commitment to measuring and improving its response to racial disparities and biases**. Such a commitment should include a description of specific steps that have been taken or will be taken to ensure that the organization's staff, leadership, highest earners, population of clients served, and board of directors include significant representation from:

- people of color,
- indigenous people,
- people who are non-native English speakers, and/or
- people with lived experience of homelessness

Possible Points for Addressing Racial Disparities:

5

Actual Points for Addressing Racial Disparities:

BONUS POINTS

Transition Grant – Permanent Supportive Housing with a Housing First Approach (10 points possible)			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			
Award 10 points if the agency is voluntarily re-allocating at least 1 non-Permanent Supportive Housing project during this competition cycle and is applying to transition from a non-Permanent Supportive Housing project to a Permanent Supportive Housing project with a Housing First Approach .			
Possible Points for Priority:	10	Actual Points for Priority:	

PSH Housing that Leverages non-CoC Funding (5 points possible)			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			
Award 5 points if the PSH project has attached a written commitment showing at least 25% of the units of the PSH project incorporates non-CoC funded housing or housing subsidies (i.e., a project that uses Public Housing Authority vouchers, or other non-CoC funding (private organizations, state or local government funding, faith-based funding, or federal funding other than CoC or ESG programs) for rental assistance or leasing).			
Possible Points for Priority:	5	Actual Points for Priority:	

PSH Project Leverages Healthcare Resources (5 points possible)			
CoC Evaluation Criteria			
Award 5 points if the PSH project has attached a written commitment from a healthcare organization to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider to the project; or • Provide health care services (equal to 25% of the funding being requested by the project) by a private or public organization tailored to the program participants of the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the services are from a substance abuse treatment or recovery provider, the project will provide access to treatment or recovery services for all program participants who qualify and choose those services. 			
Possible Points for Priority:	5	Actual Points for Priority:	