

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FY 2021 HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM COMPETITION



San Luis Obispo County
Department of Social Services
September 10, 2021

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Overview

On August 18, 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition. The NOFO can be found at https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/SPM/documents/FY21_Continuum_of_Care_Competition.pdf

The County of San Luis Obispo is requesting proposals for the FY 2021 Continuum of Care Program competition administered by HUD, and will be accepting applications for renewal projects, as well as new bonus funding projects.

The Continuum of Care (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, Indian Tribes or tribally designated housing entities (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)), and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Any group or organization wishing to apply for grant funding must submit an application for a project meeting the criteria established by HUD for the CoC program. The competition is open both to applicants seeking to renew existing funding as well as new applicants seeking funding for eligible activities.

If you are interested in learning more about the local CoC Competition and how to apply, please participate in the online FY 2021 CoC Informational Meeting on Friday, September 17 from 9:30-11 a.m.. Interested persons may attend the informational meeting via Zoom or by phone.

Zoom Link for informational meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84697577879?pwd=MHkrMUQyeW9iYnBpVzdPdFFOUjdwUT09>

Or call in:

+1 720 707 2699

Meeting ID: 846 9757 7879

Passcode: 569373

Applications are due Tuesday, October 12 at 9am. Applications must be submitted online through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's e-snaps electronic portal. Information on how to create an e-snaps account and submit an application are below. Interested applicants may contact the grant administrator, George Solis, by email or phone at gdsolis@co.slo.ca.us or (805) 781-1866 for more information.

Available Funding

Estimated ARD	Tier 1 (Renewal Projects)	CoC Bonus (New Projects)	DV Bonus (New Projects)
\$1,002,026	\$1,002,026	\$80,577*	\$241,732

*The Bonus amount is based on the Estimated ARD. County staff will update the RFP if the Final Pro Rata Need adjusts the amount available for Bonus projects.

Estimated ARD: Estimated Annual Renewal Demand – The total amount of all the CoC’s projects that will be eligible for renewal projects in the FY 2021 Competition, before any required adjustments to funding.

Bonus Project: A CoC is eligible to apply for up to 5 percent of its Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN). New projects created through the CoC Bonus must meet the project eligibility and project quality threshold requirements established by HUD in Sections V.C.3.b c of the NOFO. To be eligible to receive a CoC Bonus Project, the CoC must demonstrate its CoC ranks projects based on how they improve system performance as outlined in Section VI.B.2.b of the NOFO. For more information about the Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN), visit this link:

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY-2021-CoC-Estimated-ARD-Report.pdf>

DV Bonus: A DV Bonus is a new project that is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who qualify under paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 24 CFR 578.3. New DV Bonus Projects are subject to the limitation on new projects in Section II.B.1.a of the NOFO. A CoC may apply for up to 15 percent of its Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN) to create a new DV Bonus projects(s); however the amount is limited to a:

1. minimum of \$50,000 if 15 percent of the CoC’s PPRN is less than \$50,000; or
2. maximum of \$241,732 which is the allocation for the San Luis Obispo CoC as noted in the box above.

The Program

The Continuum of Care program, authorized by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Continuum of Care program seeks to:

- Promote a communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;

- End homelessness by providing funding for efforts to quickly re-house homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless persons and communities by homelessness;
- Promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and
- Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The Continuum of Care program provides grants to recipient agencies representing local Continuums of Care (CoCs). The County of San Luis Obispo is the recipient agency for the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care. The County is issuing this Request for Proposals to agencies interested in providing eligible services consistent with the regulations, guidance and priorities established by HUD. The CoC regulations may be obtained at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramInterimRule.pdf>.

HUD has established the following priorities for CoCs:

1. Ending homelessness for all persons
2. Using a Housing First approach
3. Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness
4. Improving System Performance
5. Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies
6. Racial Equity
7. Persons with Lived Experience

Eligible Activities

Continuum of Care funds may be used to pay for the eligible costs listed in § 578.39 through § 578.63 when used to establish and operate projects under five program components: permanent housing; transitional housing; supportive services only; Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS); and, in some cases, homelessness prevention.

All subrecipients, except agencies proposing projects to serve victims of domestic violence, will be required to enter client data into the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care HMIS, a secure, web-based data system used by the County to report de-identified, aggregate data as required by HUD or as needed for local management of the CoC. All subrecipients must agree to abide by the standards required by HUD for HMIS (HMIS Data Standards Manual -

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3824/hmis-data-dictionary/>).

Although grant funds may be used by recipients and subrecipients in all components for the eligible costs of contributing data to the HMIS, only HMIS Leads may use grant funds for an HMIS component. Administrative costs are eligible for all components. All components are subject to the restrictions on combining funds for certain eligible activities in a single project found in § 578.87(c).

ELIGIBLE COMPONENTS:

- a. *Permanent housing (PH)*. Permanent housing is community-based housing, the purpose of which is to provide housing without a designated length of stay. Grant funds may be used for acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, leasing, rental assistance, operating costs, and supportive services. PH includes:
 - a. *Permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities (PSH)*. PSH can only provide assistance to individuals with disabilities and families in which one adult or child has a disability. Supportive services designed to meet the needs of the program participants must be made available to the program participants.
 - b. *Rapid rehousing*. Continuum of Care funds may provide supportive services, as set forth in § 578.53, and/or short-term (up to 3 months) and/or medium-term (for 3 to 24 months) tenant-based rental assistance, as set forth in § 578.51(c), as necessary to help a homeless individual or family, with or without disabilities, move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. When providing short-term and/or medium-term rental assistance to program participants, the rental assistance is subject to § 578.51(a)(1), but not § 578.51(a)(1)(i) and (ii); (a)(2); (c) and (f) through (i); and (l)(1).
- b. *Transitional Housing (TH)*. Transitional housing facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to PH within 24 months of entering TH. Grant funds may be used for acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, leasing, rental assistance, operating costs, and supportive services.
- c. *Supportive Services Only (SSO)*. Funds may be used for acquisition, rehabilitation, relocation costs, or leasing of a facility from which supportive services will be provided, and supportive services to unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons for whom the recipient or subrecipient is not providing housing or housing assistance. SSO includes street outreach.
- d. *HMIS*. Funds may be used by HMIS Leads to lease a structure in which the HMIS is operated or as operating funds to operate a structure in which the HMIS is operated, and for other costs eligible in § 578.57.
- e. *Homelessness prevention*. Funds may be used by recipients in Continuums of Care-designated high-performing communities for housing relocation and stabilization services, and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance, as described in 24 CFR 576.105 and 24 CFR 576.106, that are necessary to prevent an individual or family from becoming homeless.

Uses of Assistance. Funds are available to pay for the eligible costs listed in § 578.39 through § 578.63 when used to:

- a. Establish new housing or new facilities to provide supportive services

- b. Expand existing housing and facilities in order to increase the number of homeless persons served
- c. Bring existing housing and facilities into compliance with State and local government health and safety standards
- d. Provide supportive services for residents of supportive housing or for homeless persons not residing in supportive housing
- e. Continue funding permanent housing when the recipient has received funding under this part for leasing, supportive services, operating costs, or rental assistance
- f. Establish and operate an HMIS or compatible database
- g. Establish and carry out a Continuum of Care planning process and operate a CoC

FY 2021 HUD CoC Program Highlights

Performance-Based Decisions. Consistent with the requirements of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020:

1. Requests for new project applications are not allowed, other than through reallocation unless the CoC evaluates and competitively ranks projects based on how they improve system performance as outlined in Section VII.B.2.b of the NOFO; and
2. HUD will prioritize funding for CoCs that have demonstrated the capacity to reallocate funding from lower to higher performing projects.

Transition Grants: A grant to fund a new project to transition an eligible renewal project being eliminated through reallocation from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period (see section III.B.2.z of the NOFO for more information). The new transition project must meet the following requirements:

1. no more than 50 percent of each transition grant may be used for costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded;
2. transition grants in this Competition are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new program component;
3. to be eligible to receive a transition grant, the renewal project must have the consent of its Continuum of Care; and
4. the new project application must meet project quality thresholds established by HUD in Sections V.C.3.b and c of the NOFO.

Coordination with Housing and Healthcare. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 directs HUD to provide incentives to create projects that coordinate with housing providers and healthcare organizations to provide permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing services. In the FY 2021 CoC Program Competition, CoCs may receive up to 10 bonus points on the CoC Application if

the CoC Priority Listing includes new project applications created through reallocation or the CoC Bonus that utilizes housing vouchers and healthcare provided through an array of healthcare services providers. CoC's must attach letters of commitment, contracts, or other formal documents that demonstrate the number of subsidies or units being provided to support the project and must demonstrate through a written commitment from a health care organization the value of assistance proposed (See Section VII.B.6 of the NOFO for additional details).

Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 provides up to \$52 million for "rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing Coordinated Entry, and for eligible activities that the Secretary determines to be critical in order to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking." Additionally, up to \$50 million is added to the amount from the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 as HUD did not conduct an FY 2020 CoC Program Competition, but instead only awarded eligible renewal projects. Therefore, the total amount of DV Bonus funding is \$102 million which will be used for new DV-specific project applications where 100 percent of the participants are, or will be, survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. See Section II.B.11.e of the NOFO for additional information. New eligible project types include:

- (a) Permanent Housing - Rapid re-housing projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3);
- (b) Joint TH and PH - RRH component projects defined in Section III.B.2.q of the NOFO dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3); or
- (c) Supportive Services Only - Coordinated Entry projects 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.

Only one SSO-CE project can be submitted per CoC; however there is no limit on the number of PH-RRH and Joint TH and PH-RRH projects, provided that each application is for at least \$50,000.

Renewal Projects. Awards made under the CoC Program are eligible for renewal with FY 2021 funds if they are currently in operation and have an executed grant agreement that is dated no later than December 31, 2021 and are due to expire in CY 2022 (Calendar Year, i.e. the period from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022). Projects renewed under the FY 2021 CoC Program Competition NOFO are renewable as set forth in 24 CFR 578.33 to continue ongoing leasing, operating, supportive services, rental assistance, HMIS, and project administrative costs. Grant agreements for FY 2020 funds must be executed by December 31, 2021 to be eligible for renewal. If a project application is not executed by December 31, 2021, HUD will withdraw any funds conditionally awarded for FY 2021.

Expansion Project. HUD will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project (see Section III.B.2.k of the NOFO) through reallocation, CoC Bonus, and DV Bonus processes to expand

existing projects will increase the number of units, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-Coordinated Entry projects. If the new expansion project will expand an existing eligible CoC Program renewal project, HUD will not fund capital costs (i.e., new constructions, rehabilitation, or acquisition) and will only allow 1-year funding requests.

- a. Project applicants intending to submit new project applications for the purposes of expanding an eligible renewal in the CoC Program must:
 - (i) enter the grant number of the project that is eligible for renewal the project applicant requests to expand on the new project application;
 - (ii) indicate how the new project application will expand units, beds, services, persons served, or services provided to existing program participants, or in the case of HMIS or SSO-Coordinated Entry projects, how the current activities will be expanded for the CoC's geographic area; and
 - (iii) ensure the funding request for the expansion grant is within the funding parameters allowed under reallocation, CoC Bonus, or DV Bonus available amounts.
- b. Project applicants may expand an existing renewal project that is not currently dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that meet the definition of homeless (24 CFR 578.3) to dedicate additional beds, units, persons served, or services provided to existing program participants to this population. The new expansion project application must meet the project eligibility and project quality thresholds in Sections V.C.3.b and c of the NOFO. If the new expansion project exceeds the amount of funding available under the reallocation or Bonus processes, HUD will reduce the funding request to the available amount, which could affect the activities of the new expansion project. If both the new expansion project and the CoC Program renewal project it expands are conditionally selected for funding, one grant agreement incorporating both approved project applications will be executed. If the renewal project application is not conditionally selected for funding, the expansion project application will not be selected. To apply for an expansion grant, project applicants must submit separate renewal and new project applications, and both must be ranked by the CoC with unique rank numbers.

Consolidation Project. Project applicants can consolidate two but no more than ten eligible renewal projects during the application process. The projects being combined during a grant consolidation will continue uninterrupted. To be eligible for consolidation, the projects must have the same recipient and be for the same component (e.g., permanent housing-permanent supportive housing projects); and will only be funded in this Competition with FY 2021 funds (meaning no funds recaptured from prior years will be awarded to the project). See Section V.B.4.a.(7) of the NOFO for additional information.

Project applicants that intend to use the consolidation process may do so through the renewal project application and must ensure:

- a. Budget Line Items (BLIs) for the consolidated project application submitted exactly match the sum of the BLIs for each of the individual projects as they appear on the GIW located on HUD's website, or grant agreement as amended;
- b. inclusion of the expiring grant numbers with operating start and end dates for the projects that are consolidating;
- c. current operating end dates must end in CY 2022;
- d. are in good standing with HUD, meaning none of the projects have:
 - i. outstanding audit or monitoring findings;
 - ii. outstanding obligation to HUD that is in arrears;
 - iii. unresolved construction delays;
 - iv. a history of poor financial management/drawdown issues;
 - v. history of low occupancy levels, or lack experience in administering the project type;or
 - vi. other capacity issues.
- e. the projects have the same recipient and are for the same component.

New Projects Created Through Reallocation or CoC Bonus processes:

- a. Permanent Housing-Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH) projects.
- b. Permanent Housing-Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH) projects.
- c. Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects.
- d. Dedicated HMIS project for the costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(4) that can 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 in their project application budgets to enter data into a comparable database.
- e. Supportive Services Only-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system.

CoC Specific Requirements

- A. **Coordinated Entry** - Both the CoC and ESG Program interim rules require use of the CoC's Coordinated Entry process.
- B. **Match Requirements** – 24 CFR 578.73 provides the information regarding match requirements. All subrecipients must match all grant funds, except for leasing funds, with

no less than 25 percent of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources. Project applicants that intend to use program income as match must provide an estimate of how much program income will be used for each match.

- C. **DUNS Number** - is the nine-digit Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Number System (DUNS) identification number assigned to a business or organization by Dun & Bradstreet and provides a means of identifying business entities on a location-specific basis. The OMB (Office of Management and Budget) removes duplicate recipients based on recipient DUNS numbers from Dun and Bradstreet (D&B). At this time, all Federal financial assistance recipients, including CoC recipients, are required to register for DUNS numbers.
- D. **System for Award Management (SAM)** is the Federal Repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Registration with SAM is required for submission of applications via e-snaps. You can access the website at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>. There is no cost to use SAM.
- E. Subrecipients must comply with non-discrimination, fair housing, and equal opportunity regulations as described in Section 578.93 and 24 CFR 5.105 and the Fair Housing Act.
- F. **Housing First** – A Housing First approach is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements. Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry.
- G. **Compliance with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Rule** – Per 24 CFR 578.99(j) & 24 CFR 5 Subpart L, all permanent and transitional housing for which Continuum of Care program funds are used for acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, leasing, rental assistance, or operating costs must implement the requirements of VAWA for the protection of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- H. **Fair Market Rents (FMR)** – HUD is required to adjust awards for leasing, operating, and rental assistance line items based on changes to the FMR. Funds awarded for rental assistance will be adjusted in all new projects and renewal projects requesting the FMR will be adjusted by applying the FMR in effect at the time of application submission to HUD.
- I. **Affirmative Marketing and Outreach** - The CoC Program interim rule at 24 CFR 578.93(c) requires recipients of CoC Program funds to affirmatively market their housing and supportive services to eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, familial status, or disability who are least likely to apply in the absence of special outreach, and maintain records of those marketing activities. Housing assisted by HUD and made available through the CoC must also be made available to individuals and

families without regard to actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in accordance with 24 CFR 5.105 (a)(2).

- J. **Section 3 (the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u))** – For Construction or rehabilitation projects, applicants are required to provide employment and training opportunities for low- and very low-income persons, as well as contracting and other economic opportunities for businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons.
- K. **Uniform Guidance 2 CFR Part 200** - Applicants will be required to carry out all activities in accordance with federal laws, regulations, and guidance governing federal grants, including the Office of Management and Budget’s Uniform Guidance [2 CFR Part 200](#).

Application Procedures

Complete applications will be due by Tuesday, October 12 at 9am. The process may be found in the “Timeline” section of the RFP on page 17. All applications must be submitted through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s e-snaps portal, available at <https://esnaps.hud.gov/grantium/frontOffice.jsf>.

Detailed instructions on how to complete the application process can be found here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>

The above link to the Detailed Instructions includes information about each question in the application and information about specific information that should be included in response to the question. All applicants are strongly encouraged to review the Detailed Instructions before completing their applications.

The following categories of projects are available:

1. Renewal and Renewal Expansion Projects

Current subrecipients are eligible for renewal under the CoC Program as long as recipients are compliant with grant requirements and conditions and maintain the same scope as the current grant. Renewal Projects may also submit applications for expansion projects. Separate applications should be submitted in e-snaps for renewal and expansion projects.

2. Reallocation

Reallocation is a process that CoCs use to shift funds in whole or part from existing eligible renewal projects to create one or more new projects without decreasing the CoC’s ARD. New projects created through reallocation must meet the requirements set forth in Section II.B.1 of the NOFO and the project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD in Sections V.C.3.b and c of the NOFO. CoCs may only reallocate eligible renewal projects that have previously been renewed under the CoC Program. To create a Transition Grant (see Section III.B.2.z of the NOFO),

the CoC must wholly eliminate one or more projects and use those funds to create the single, new transition grant.

3. New Projects & Bonus Projects

New project applicants applying for funds through reallocation, the bonus or DV Bonus, and renewal project applicants must provide a description of the proposed project including the population/sub-population they will serve, the type of housing and services that will be provided, and the budget activities that are being requested.

Both Renewal and New Project applicants will be responsible for completing a Project Applicant Profile and a Project Application through the HUD platform “e-snaps.” For information on how to gain access and utilize e-snaps, see the links below.

Application Guides

Renewal Project Application Guide:

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY-2021-Renewal-Project-Application-Navigational-Guide.pdf>

New Project Application Guide:

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY-2021-New-Project-Application-Navigational-Guide.pdf>

Accessing the Project Application in e-snaps:

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY-2021-Accessing-the-Project-Application.pdf>

Other HUD CoC Program Competition References:

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

Supplemental Application

All FY 2021 CoC Program applicants will need to submit a supplemental application in addition to the HUD application submitted in e-snaps. Supplemental applications can be found on the San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services website. [Funding Availability - County of San Luis Obispo \(ca.gov\)](#).

Please submit Supplemental Applications by email to ss_homelessgrants@co.slo.ca.us or deliver to George Solis at the County Department of Social Services, 3433 S. Higuera, San Luis Obispo, CA.

Both the esnaps and Supplemental Application must be received no later than **9 AM on October 12, 2021**. **Additionally, two additional documents (Supplemental Attachments A & B must be submitted by email or in person no later than October 4, 2021).**

Project Review and Scoring

Once an application has been submitted, a review will be undertaken to ensure the proposed project meets threshold requirements (see sections V.C.3.b and c of the NOFO). Applications submitted by the deadline that meet the threshold requirements will be considered by a grant review committee.

Scoring will be based on the factors listed in the County's CoC scoring rubric. These factors include:

- Experience operating the types of projects proposed
- Quality of services proposed
- Cost effectiveness of services proposed
- Severity of needs of the population to be served

For applicants who have been funded in one or more previous years, past performance will also be considered, including:

- Exits to permanent housing
- Retention of permanent housing
- Increases in employment income of participants from entry to exit (Permanent Housing projects only)
- Increases in total income (Permanent Housing Projects only)

Detailed scoring information is available in the County's Continuum of Care scoring rubric for each type of application (Coordinated Entry – Renewals and Expansions; Permanent Supportive Housing – Renewals and Expansions; and New and Bonus Projects). Scoring rubrics are posted on the County website, along with this RFP, and will also be distributed at the September 17 workshop.

Once reviewed and scored, projects will be ranked and classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2.

Tier 1

Tier 1 is equal to 100 percent of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). Project applications in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC, provided the projects pass both project eligibility and project quality threshold review, and if applicable, project renewal threshold. Any type of new or renewal project application can be placed in Tier 1, except for CoC Planning and UFA projects, which are not ranked. However, in the event insufficient funding is available to award all Tier 1 projects, Tier 1 will be reduced proportionately, which could result in Tier 1 projects falling into Tier 2.

Tier 2

Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation, and CoC Bonus funds that a CoC can apply for, but does not include CoC planning projects, or projects

selected with DV Bonus funds. Project applications placed in Tier 2 will be assessed for eligibility and project quality threshold requirements, and if applicable, project renewal threshold requirements, and funding will be determined using the CoC Application score as well as the factors listed in Section II.B.11 of the NOFO.

Projects straddling Tiers:

If a project application straddles the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding line, HUD will conditionally select the project up to the amount of funding that falls within Tier 1. Using the CoC score and other factors described in Section II.B.11 of the NOFO, HUD may fund the Tier 2 portion of the project. If HUD does not fund the Tier 2 portion of the project, HUD may award the project at the reduced amount, provided the project is still feasible with reduced funding (e.g. is able to continue serving homeless program participants effectively).

Final Rankings and Submission:

Following the grant review committee's ranking process, all applicants will be notified as to their ranking, if they met threshold eligibility, or notified that they did not meet threshold review requirements. The grant review committee may recommend less than the total amount of funding requested by the applicant. Prior to the meeting of the grant review committee, applicants may be asked to provide an estimate of the impact to the program if funds were reduced by 20% or less and what the revised outcomes would be if funds were reduced by that amount.

The proposed rankings will be voted on at the by the County's Homeless Services Oversight Council the week of October 18 and then forwarded on to the County Board of Supervisors for a final vote on November 2, 2021. Once the Board of Supervisors has voted on the final ranking, the County will submit the completed CoC application to HUD for its review.

HUD intends to fund all eligible CoC renewal projects for one year. Applications for funding are reviewed by HUD on a competitive basis. If funded by HUD, the County will enter into a contract with the subrecipients for implementation of the project.

Appeal Process

Applicants who wish to appeal a decision have several opportunities to do so throughout the CoC Program Competition. The week of October 18, the San Luis Obispo County HSOC will hold a special meeting to review the Grant Review Committee's funding recommendation. On November 2, 2021, the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services will present the recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors on the Consent Agenda. If applicants remain unsatisfied with CoC recommendations following the Board of Supervisors hearing, they may appeal decisions directly to HUD. Applicants may appeal funding decisions only as provided in 24 CFR 578.35. See Section X of the NOFO regarding the CoC Program specific process for appeals.

Types of Appeals - Provision at 24 CFR part 578 set forth the following types of appeals:

1. *Solo Applicants*. A process for eligible project applicants that attempted to participate in their CoC planning process and believe they were denied the right to participate in a reasonable manner.
2. *Denied or Decreased Funding*. A process for eligible applicants that are denied funds by HUD or that requested more funds than HUD awarded to them.
3. *Consolidated Plan Certification*. A process for eligible applicants whose jurisdiction refused to provide a Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan (form HUD2990).
4. *Competing CoCs*. A process when more than one CoC claims the same geographic area for eligible applicants of lower-scoring CoCs, to appeal to HUD's decision to fund the competing CoC. While there were no CoCs that claimed the same geographic area as determined by the FY 2021 CoC Program Registration process; should two or more CoCs claim the same geographic codes associated with formula areas, HUD will use the competing CoC process at 24 CFR 578.35(d).

For more detailed information regarding appeals processes, please consult the FY 2021 HUD CoC NOFA, Section X

https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/SPM/documents/FY21_Continuum_of_Care_Competition.pdf

Solo Project Application Resources for the CoC Program

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4065/project-application-appeal-process-instructional-guide/>

Information Session

If you are interested in learning more about the local CoC Competition and how to apply, please participate in the online FY 2021 CoC Informational Meeting on Friday, September 17 from 9:30-11 a.m.. Interested persons may attend the informational meeting via Zoom or by phone.

Zoom Link for informational meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84697577879?pwd=MHkrMUQyeW9iYnBpVzdPdFF0UjdwUT09>

Or call in:

+1 720 707 2699

Meeting ID: 846 9757 7879

Passcode: 569373

Timeline

HUD NOFA RELEASED – August 18, 2021

COUNTY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) – September 10, 2021

RFP WORKSHOP FOR APPLICANTS – September 17, 2021

LOCAL APPLICATION DUE DATE – October 12, 2021

HSOC RECOMMENDATION MEETING – Week of October 18, 2021

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING – CONSENT AGENDA – November 2, 2021

HUD COC APPLICATION DUE – November 16, 2021

Questions or Need More Information?
Contact George Solis, Program Manager – County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services at (805) 781-1866 or gdsolis@co.slo.ca.us