FY 2018 HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program, Local Application Process
Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care Request for Proposals (RFP) for the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program FY 2018 Local Application Process 7/9/2018

Introduction

The FY 2018 CoC Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), as authorized by Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, was released by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on June 20, 2018. Texas Homeless Network (THN) and the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC) are soliciting eligible project applications from non-profit agencies, local governments, and other eligible applicants that provide housing and services to homeless persons in the 215 counties included in the TX BoS CoC geographic area. A list of the cities and counties within the TX BoS CoC may be found in Appendix A of this document.

Applicants for CoC Program funding may not apply to HUD directly. Instead, they must apply as part of a Consolidated Application through a Continuum of Care’s (CoC’s) “local application process.” For the TX BoS CoC, THN is the Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant, and THN manages the CoC’s local application process. The process is described in this RFP and includes reviewing, selecting, and ranking Project Applications, then submitting them to HUD under a consolidated, or joint, application. HUD then makes the final determination about which projects will be awarded CoC Program funding.

Eligible project applicants for the CoC Program funding are under 24 CFR 578.15 and include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, and instrumentalities of state and local governments. Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grant funds or to be subrecipients of grant funds.
# Table of Contents

Introduction......................................................................................................................... 1

Requirements Prior to Applying.......................................................................................... 4

Accessibility ............................................................................................................................ 4

Funding Available .................................................................................................................. 4

- Renewal Projects .............................................................................................................. 5
  - Consolidated Projects ..................................................................................................... 5
  - Transition Grants ........................................................................................................... 5

- New Projects ..................................................................................................................... 5

- Reallocation of Existing Funding .................................................................................... 6

- Expansion Projects ........................................................................................................... 6

- Bonus ................................................................................................................................ 7

- Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus ....................................................................................... 7

- Limits ................................................................................................................................. 8

Letter of Intent to Apply and Letter of Notification Not to Apply ........................................ 8

- Letter of Intent to Apply ................................................................................................... 8

- Letter of Notification Not to Apply for Renewal Projects .................................................. 9

CoC Program Components .................................................................................................... 9

- Permanent Housing (PH) ................................................................................................ 9
  - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) ......................................................................... 9
  - Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) ............................................................................................ 9

- Joint TH & PH-RRH ......................................................................................................... 9

- Supportive Services Only (SSO) for Coordinated Entry (CE) (SSO-CE) ......................... 10

- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) ...................................................... 10

Eligible Persons to Be Served................................................................................................. 10

  - “Homeless” Definition: .............................................................................................. 10
  - “Chronically Homeless” Definition: ........................................................................... 12

- Dedication and Prioritization in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Projects: .......... 12

- DedicatedPLUS Projects ................................................................................................. 12

- Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects: ............................................................................... 13

Application Process ............................................................................................................. 13

- Overview ......................................................................................................................... 13

- Eligible Applicants ......................................................................................................... 14

- Application Due Date ..................................................................................................... 14
2018 Application Process Timeline..................................................................................15
Availability of Technical Assistance................................................................................16
Communication ..............................................................................................................16
Application Materials ......................................................................................................16
  For HUD .......................................................................................................................16
  For THN ........................................................................................................................17
Submitting Application Packets to THN .........................................................................17
IMPORTANT NOTE ON FILE FORMAT: ......................................................................17
Threshold Requirements ..................................................................................................17
Scoring and Ranking of Projects ......................................................................................19
Matching Funds and Documentation Requirements .........................................................19
  Match Requirements for CoC Program Funding ..........................................................19
  Types of match ..............................................................................................................20
  What can be used as match? .........................................................................................20
  What cannot be used as match? ....................................................................................20
  Documenting Match .....................................................................................................20
Appendix A ......................................................................................................................23
  Texas Balance of State CoC Cities/Counties ...............................................................23
Appendix B ......................................................................................................................26
  HUD CPD Notices and Regulations ..........................................................................26
Appendix C ......................................................................................................................27
  TX BoS CoC Policy on Late Submissions ....................................................................27
Appendix D ......................................................................................................................29
  Housing First Questionnaire ......................................................................................29
Appendix E ......................................................................................................................31
  DedicatedPLUS .............................................................................................................31
Appendix F ......................................................................................................................32
  Eligible 2018 Renewal Projects ..................................................................................32
Appendix G ......................................................................................................................34
  Grievance Procedure .................................................................................................34
Requirements Prior to Applying

Before applying, Project Applicants are required to:

1. Attend a mandatory webinar held by THN on July 9, 2018 from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M. Central Daylight Time regarding this local application process and CoC Program funding. Only applicants that have attended the webinar will be allowed to participate in the local application process. Register for the webinar using this link: https://goo.gl/W1q5j2

2. Read and ensure their eligibility and compliance with the FY2018 HUD CoC Program NOFA:

3. View pertinent resources on the HUD Exchange website:
   a. HUD’s Training on CoC Program Components/Eligible Costs:
      https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3146/coc-program-components-and-eligible-costs/
   b. HUD’s Training on CoC Program Administration:
      https://www.hudexchange.info/training-events/courses/coc-program-grant-administration/
   c. HUD’s Financial Management Curriculum:
      https://www.hudexchange.info/training/financial-management-curriculum/
   d. Review the CoC Interim rule (24 CFR Part 578):

4. Agree to comply with the TX BoS CoC’s Written Standards for service delivery.

Accessibility

In seeking public participation, applicants and recipients, including CoCs, must ensure that all communications are provided in a manner that is effective for persons with hearing, visual, and other communications-related disabilities consistent with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and, as applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act. In addition, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000(d) and Executive Order 13166 require that recipients take responsible steps to ensure meaningful access to services, programs, and activities by persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP persons). For assistance with accessing the RFP and/or participating in the local application process, please contact the CoC Manager, Mary Rychlik Stahlke, at mary@thn.org.

Funding Available

In the FY 2018 competition for CoC Program funds, funding is available for Renewal Projects, New Projects, Consolidation Projects, Transition Projects (that is, a renewal project that wishes to reallocate from one component type to another component type) and Expansion Projects. The CoC welcomes and encourages new applicants to apply, and encourages existing CoC Program-funded organizations to apply for new project funding.
Renewal Projects
Funding for Renewal Projects is not guaranteed. HUD makes available to each CoC the amount of funding needed to re-fund all currently-funded projects. That amount is called the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). The TX BoS CoC’s FY 2018 estimated ARD is $5,854,328. The score on the CoC Application (which contains information about the CoC planning body, governance structure, overall performance, and the strategic planning process), individual Project Application scores, and the mandatory “tiering” process factor into which Project Applications are ultimately selected for funding by HUD.

Consolidated Projects
New in FY 2018, eligible Renewal Project applicants will have the ability to consolidate up to four eligible Renewal Projects into one project application during the application process. This means that a CoC Program recipient need no longer wait for a grant agreement amendment to be executed to consolidate two or more grants before it can apply for a single consolidated project in the CoC Program Competition.

Renewal Project applicants interested in pursuing this option must consult with TA and Performance Coordinator, Jim Ward (jim@thn.org), and their local HUD CPD Field Office to ensure the selected projects are eligible for consolidation.

Transition Grants
New this year, Renewal Projects now have the ability to transition from one CoC Program component to another during the CoC Program Competition. The implementation for such grants is as follows:

a) No more than 50 percent of each transition grant may be used for costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded;
b) Transition grants in this Competition are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new program component; and

c) To be eligible to receive a transition grant, the renewal project applicant must have the consent of its Continuum of Care and meet the standards outlined in Section III.C.3.r of the FY 2018 CoC Program NOFA.

New Projects
Funding for New Projects in FY 2018 is limited and is not guaranteed. Funding will come from:

1) The voluntary reallocation of existing Renewal Project funding; and/or
2) The involuntary reallocation of existing Renewal Project funding; and/or
3) The Bonus funding; and/or
4) The Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus

Prior to completing a new project created through the reallocation process or a bonus project, project applicants should consult with THN to determine which of these options the project should apply under. Contact Jim Ward at jim@thn.org.

New Project applications may be created through the reallocation process or as a bonus project. The only eligible New Project types are as follows:
1. New Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects where 100% of beds will be dedicated for use by chronically homeless individuals and families, as defined by 24 CFR 578.3, or that meet the requirements of Dedicated PLUS, as defined in Section III.C.3.f. of the FY2018 NOFA, or;

2. New Rapid Re-housing (RRH) projects that will serve homeless individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth;

3. New Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects, as defined in Section III.C.3.m. of the FY 2018 NOFA, to better serve homeless individuals and families, including individuals or families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who meet the following criteria:
   a. Residing in a place not meant for human habitation;
   b. Residing in an emergency shelter;
   c. Persons meeting criteria (4) of the definition of homeless, including persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence situations;
   d. Residing in a transitional housing project that is being eliminated;
   e. Residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project (see Section III.C.3.m. of the FY 2018 NOFA); or
   f. Receiving services from a VA-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA’s homeless assistance system;

4. A dedicated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) project for the costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(2) that can only be carried out by the HMIS Lead Agency designated in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps (which is THN for the TX BoS CoC); or

5. Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects specifically to develop or operate a new centralized or coordinated assessment system (called Coordinated Entry in the TX BoS CoC).

Reallocation of Existing Funding
The TX BoS CoC may require Renewal Projects to reallocate funds in the FY 2018 local application process if projects have performance deficiencies and/or unspent funds. Reallocations will follow the Review, Score, and Ranking Procedures and Reallocation Process, as approved by TX BoS CoC Board.

Funds that become available via the reallocation process may be used to create New Projects and Expansion Projects. New applicants and applicants with current CoC Program-funded projects are encouraged to apply for New Projects. Eligible Renewal Projects are encouraged to apply for Expansion Projects.

Expansion Projects
Eligible Renewal Project applicants may apply for Expansion Project funding in order to expand existing eligible Renewal Projects that will increase the number of units in the project or allow the recipient to serve additional persons. Funding for Expansion projects may come from reallocated funds, Bonus funding, or the DV Bonus.
If the Expansion Project exceeds the amount of funding available under the reallocation amount, HUD will reduce the funding request to the available amount, which could affect the activities of the New Expansion Project.

If both the Expansion Project and the Renewal Project it expands are conditionally selected for funding, one grant agreement incorporating both project applications will be executed. If the Renewal Project application is not conditionally selected for funding, the Expansion Project application will not be selected.

“Traditional Expansion” may also occur, where an applicant submits a New Project application that requests CoC Program funds to add funding to a current homeless project that is funded from sources other than CoC Program funds. However, as stated in Section 426 of the Act, project applicants are prohibited from using CoC Program funds to replace state and local funds.

**Bonus**

Bonus funds may be used to create New Projects or Expansion Projects. Bonus funding is not guaranteed to be awarded.

**Bonus Funds for New and Expansion Projects**

CoCs may create new projects through Bonus funding. The Bonus amount is up to 6% of a CoC’s Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) amount—approximately $2,284,471 for the TX BoS CoC.

CoCs may apply for more than one Bonus project.

CoCs may use Bonus funds to expand eligible Renewal Projects. Eligible Renewal Project applicants may apply for Expansion Project funding in order to expand existing eligible Renewal Projects that will increase the number of units in the project, or allow the recipient to serve additional persons.

If the Expansion Project exceeds the amount of funding available under the reallocation amount, HUD will reduce the funding request to the available amount, which could affect the activities of the new expansion project.

If both the Expansion Project and the Renewal Project it expands are conditionally selected for funding, one grant agreement incorporating both project applications will be executed. If the Renewal Project application is not conditionally selected for funding, the Expansion Project application will not be selected.

**Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus**

HUD will fund up to $50 million for “rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing coordinated entry and for eligible activities that the Secretary determines are critical in order to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.” $3,807,452 is available to be applied for by projects in the TX BoS CoC.

**DV Bonus Funds for New Projects**

A CoC may apply for one of each of the following types of projects:
1. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) project that follows a Housing First approach
2. Join TH and PH-RRH (TH-RRH) component project, as defined in Section II.C.3.m. of the FY 2018 CoC Program NOFA, that follows a Housing First approach
3. SSO Project for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip a community’s CE process to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

The CoC may submit only one project application per project type in its Consolidated Application. Therefore, the CoC shall only submit the highest ranked project for each project type listed above.

The only persons who may be served in projects funded through the DV Bonus are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3. Additionally, all projects funded through the DV Bonus must adopt a Housing First approach.

**DV Bonus Funds for Expansion Projects**

A Renewal Project applicant may expand an existing Renewal Project that is not dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that meet the definition of homeless in paragraph (4) of 24 CFR 578.3, in order to dedicate additional units, beds, persons served, or services provided to existing program participants to this population.

The CoC may only submit one expansion application under the DV Bonus funds. Therefore, the CoC shall only submit the highest ranked expansion project in its Consolidated Application.

**Limits**

- All projects except New Projects applying under the Bonus funding that are requesting funding for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation, will be limited to a one-year grant term.

- For the Administration budget line item, all applicants may request no more than 10% of the total dollar amount requested from HUD.

**Letter of Intent to Apply and Letter of Notification Not to Apply**

**Letter of Intent to Apply**

All applicants for New Projects or Expansion Projects must submit a Letter of Intent to Apply. Letters must be submitted to Sophia Checa, Interim Continuum of Care Director, at sophia@thn.org by 5:00 P.M. CDT on Friday, July 13, 2018. Include the proposed project component type (e.g. PH-RRH, PH-PSH etc.), project name, number of participants to be served, target population, and total budget amount in the body of the letter. If an applicant does not submit a Letter of Intent to Apply, the applicant will not be allowed to participate in the local application process.
Letter of Notification Not to Apply for Renewal Projects

Any eligible applicants for Renewal Projects (listed in Appendix F) that are NOT planning to apply for funding to renew their project must notify Sophia Checa, Interim Continuum of Care Director, at sophia@thn.org by 5:00 P.M. CDT on Friday, **July 13, 2018**, so that funds can be reallocated within the CoC and made available for other projects to apply for.

If a Renewal Project applicant chooses to withdraw its application at a later time during the local application process, at the Board’s discretion, the agency may be deemed ineligible to apply for CoC Program funds in the future.

For more information about applying for Renewal Projects, New Projects, and Expansion Projects in the local application process, see the [Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care 2018 Renewal Project Application Guide](#) and [Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care 2018 New/Expansion Project Application Guide](#), which will be available after HUD releases the Detailed Instructions for HUD’s Project Applications.

CoC Program Components

The following program components are eligible under the CoC Program:

**Permanent Housing (PH)**

Funds for PH may be used for acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, leasing, rental assistance (RA), operating, and supportive services (some exceptions apply). PH encompasses Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH).

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

PSH is permanent housing with indefinite leasing or rental assistance paired with intensive, voluntary supportive services to assist the most vulnerable homeless persons with a disability or families with an adult or child member with a disability to achieve housing stability. PSH has a recommended 12-16:1 client-to-case manager ratio. For projects applying for FY2018 CoC Program funding, the TX BoS CoC requires: 1) that the project use the Housing First model; and 2) that 100% of beds are dedicated to serve chronically homeless persons, or beds are designated as DedicatedPLUS, as defined in the FY2018 NOFA.

**Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**

RRH emphasizes housing search, relocation services, and short-term and/or medium-term rental assistance to move individuals and families experiencing homelessness (with or without a disability) as rapidly as possible into permanent housing. The TX BoS CoC requires RRH projects applying for FY2018 CoC Program funds to use the Housing First model.

**Joint TH & PH-RRH**

Joint TH & PH-RRH was introduced in HUD’s FY2017 NOFA. It combines transitional housing and rapid re-housing in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Applicants interested in this project type should pay particular attention to...
the requirements in the FY 2018 CoC Program NOFA. HUD requires that Joint TH & PH-RRH projects use the Housing First model.

Supportive Services Only (SSO) for Coordinated Entry (CE) (SSO-CE)
The only SSO projects eligible to receive funding this year are those projects designed to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system (Coordinated Entry).

SSO-CE Projects will be assessed by HUD for meeting the project quality threshold based on:

a) Whether the centralized or coordinated assessment system is easily accessible for all persons within the CoC’s geographic area who are seeking information regarding homelessness assistance;
b) Whether there is a strategy for advertising the program that is designed specifically to reach homeless persons with the highest barriers within the CoC’s geographic area;
c) Whether there is a standardized assessment process; and
d) Whether the program ensures that program participants are directed to appropriate housing and services that fit their needs.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
Only applicants designated as the HMIS Lead Agency by the CoC Lead Agency may apply for CoC Program funds to administer and operate HMIS. In the TX BoS CoC, this means that only THN, as the CoC designated HMIS Lead Agency, may apply for CoC funds to operate and administer HMIS.

Eligible Persons to Be Served
All CoC Program-funded projects must exclusively serve persons who meet the HUD definition of homeless, as defined in the HEARTH Act, or persons who meet the HUD definition of chronically homeless:

"Homeless" Definition:
A person or family who is considered homeless must meet the following definition:

1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
   i. An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
   ii. An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low income individuals); or
   iii. An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;
2) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
   i. The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
   ii. No subsequent residence has been identified; and
   iii. The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks needed to obtain other permanent housing;

3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:
   ii. Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;
   iii. Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
   iv. Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect), the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or

4) Any individual or family who:
   i. Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual’s or family’s primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence;
   ii. Has no other residence; and
   iii. Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

The full definition may be found at 24 CFR Part 91, available at https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HEARTH_HomelessDefinition_FinalRule.pdf

https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1928/hearth-defining-homeless-final-rule/
“Chronically Homeless” Definition:
A person or family who is considered chronically homeless must meet the following definition:

1) A “homeless individual with a disability,” as defined in the HEARTH Act (24 CFR parts 91, 582 & 583), who:
   i. Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter and;
   ii. Has been homeless (as described above) for at least 12 months or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined occasions must total at least 12 months
      - Occasions separated by a break of at least seven nights
      - Stays in institutions of fewer than 90 days do not constitute a break

2) A individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility for fewer than 90 days and met all of the criteria in paragraph (1) of this definition, before entering that facility; or

3) A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria in paragraphs (1) or (2) of this definition, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

The full definition may be found at https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4847/hearth-defining-chronically-homeless-final-rule/.

Dedication and Prioritization in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Projects:
New and Renewal PSH Projects in the TX BoS CoC must be 100% dedicated to persons experiencing chronic homelessness, meaning the project may serve only people who meet HUD’s definition of chronically homeless OR they must meet the DedicatedPLUS designation, as defined in the FY 2018 CoC Program NOFA.

PSH projects must also target persons with the highest needs and longest histories of homelessness. Projects must prioritize chronically homeless individuals, youth, and families who have the longest histories of homelessness and the highest needs by implementing the prioritization standards for chronically homeless households in permanent supportive housing in the CoC’s Written Standards (see also Appendix B).

DedicatedPLUS Projects
The only persons who may be served in DedicatedPLUS Project are persons described in III.C.3.f. of the FY2018 NOFA. Renewal PSH Projects, including those where 100% of the beds are currently dedicated to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness, may change the classification of the project through the project application to DedicatedPLUS; a grant agreement amendment is not needed. Because DedicatedPLUS Projects may serve chronically homeless persons and other homeless persons described in III.C.3.f, some or all of the persons
assisted by a DedicatedPLUS project at any given time may be chronically homeless.

**Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects:**

Rapid Re-Housing projects, including New and Renewal Projects, may serve individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth, who meet the following criteria:

i. Residing in a place not meant for human habitation;

ii. Residing in an emergency shelter or coming directly from the streets;

iii. Persons who qualify under paragraph (4) of the definition of homelessness, including persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence situations;

iv. Residing in a transitional housing project that was eliminated;

v. Residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project (see Section III.C.3.m. of this NOFA); or

vi. Receiving services through a VA-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA’s homeless assistance system.

RRH projects must also prioritize households who have the highest needs, are sleeping in an unsheltered location, have the longest histories of homelessness, and have been utilizing services the longest by implementing the prioritization standards for CoC Program-funded rapid re-housing projects in the CoC’s Written Standards (see also Appendix B).

**Application Process**

**Overview**

Applicants for CoC Program funding may not apply to HUD directly. Instead, they must apply as part of a Consolidated Application through a Continuum of Care’s (CoC’s) “local application process.” For the TX BoS CoC, THN is the Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant, and THN manages the CoC’s local application process. The process is described in this RFP and includes reviewing, selecting, and ranking Project Applications, then submitting them to HUD under a consolidated, or joint, application.

Eligible Project Applicants must submit their Renewal, New, and/or Expansion Project Application Packets to THN, the TX BoS CoC Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant, at txboscoc@thn.org by **5:00 P.M. CDT on Friday, July 27.**

Once Project Applications are received, THN staff complete a threshold review to determine if a Project Application is eligible be included in the Consolidated Application. Threshold review ensures Project Applicants are eligible to apply and that applications meet minimum acceptable criteria. THN staff will alert Project Applicants if any corrections are needed to meet threshold review criteria, and Applicants will have a short time to respond to the requested corrections. Project Applications that do not meet threshold criteria after the correction period will not be included in the Consolidated Application. Applicants will be informed by no later than Friday, August 17, 2018, if their Project Application will be included in the Consolidated Application.
Once threshold review is complete, Project Applications will be scored by the TX BoS CoC Independent Review Team (IRT). However, an application’s score is not the only factor used in determining if a project receives HUD funding. Projects are also placed in a ranked order determined by their performance, with projects at the top of the ranking being most likely to receive funding, and projects at the bottom of the ranking being least likely to receive funding. The TX BoS CoC Board determines how projects are ranked, taking into account project score and component type, among other criteria.

THN will publish the results of the scoring and ranking processes on its website, http://thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/continuum-care-program/, by Friday, August 17, 2018. The Consolidated Application is due to HUD on Tuesday, September 18, 2018.

Once the Consolidated Application is submitted, HUD will then determine which projects in the Consolidated Application’s ranking will be awarded funding, based on HUD’s threshold reviews, the Project Application’s score, and the CoC Application’s score, among other factors. Once all CoCs have been scored, HUD announces its final funding decisions. The time frame for funding announcement changes every year, so THN does not provide an estimated date for announcement.

**Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants must provide services and/or housing in one or more of the 215 counties included in the TX BoS CoC geography. A list of the cities and counties within the TX BoS CoC may be found in Appendix A of this document.

Eligible Project Applicants for the CoC Program Competition are, under 24 CFR 578.15, non-profit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State and local governments. Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be subrecipients of grant funds.

As required in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 2 CFR 25.200 and 24 CFR Part 5 Subpart K, all applicants for financial assistance must have an active Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number (http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform) and have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) (www.sam.gov) before submitting an application. Getting a DUNS number and completing SAM registration can take up to four weeks; therefore, applicants should start this process or check their status early.

**Application Due Date**

Project Applications are due to THN, the TX BoS CoC Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant, at txboscoc@thn.org by **5:00 P.M., CDT on Friday, July 27, 2018**. THN reserves the right to extend the deadline. Applications received after the due date and time will not be reviewed or included in the FY 2018 TX BoS CoC Consolidated Application, in accordance with the CoC Board’s “late submission” policy found in Appendix C.
## 2018 Application Process Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/20/18</td>
<td>FY 2018 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) released by HUD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20/18</td>
<td>TX BoS CoC members informed of the HUD CoC NOFA release via the CoC’s email list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/21/18</td>
<td>Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) MHSA Contracts Management Unit informed of the HUD CoC NOFA release</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/27/18</td>
<td>LOCCS data request sent to Renewal Project applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/9/18</td>
<td><strong>Mandatory</strong> TX BoS CoC local application process webinar to review the RFP and application/competition requirements from 2:00 -4:00 P.M. Register here: <a href="https://goo.gl/W1g5j2">https://goo.gl/W1g5j2</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13/18</td>
<td>LOCCS data and total budget amount request due to THN at <a href="mailto:txboscoc@thn.org">txboscoc@thn.org</a> from Renewal Project applicants by no later than 5:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13/18</td>
<td>Letters of intent for New Project applications via the Bonus, DV Bonus, Reallocation, and Expansion Project applications due by 5:00 PM. Send letters to Sophia Checa, Interim CoC Director, at <a href="mailto:sophia@thn.org">sophia@thn.org</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13/18</td>
<td>Renewal Project applicants must inform THN if intending <strong>not</strong> to apply for renewal funding by 5:00 PM. Send notification to Sophia Checa, Interim CoC Director, at <a href="mailto:sophia@thn.org">sophia@thn.org</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16/18</td>
<td>Competition Annual Performance Reports (APRs) pulled by THN for projects in HMIS or submitted by DV projects by 5:00 P.M. CDT (required only for Renewal Projects with one operating year or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/27/18</td>
<td><strong>Complete application packets due to THN by electronic submission to</strong> <a href="mailto:TXBoSCoC@thn.org">TXBoSCoC@thn.org</a> <strong>by 5:00 PM</strong>. Do <strong>NOT</strong> click the “submit” button in the e-snaps application until directed to do so by THN Staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/1/18</td>
<td>Application threshold review complete. Requests for corrections sent to applicants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/3/18</td>
<td>Application packets with corrections returned to Texas Homeless Network by email to <a href="mailto:TXBoSCoC@thn.org">TXBoSCoC@thn.org</a> by 5:00 PM CDT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/6/18</td>
<td>Applications sent to TX BoS CoC Independent Review Team (IRT) for scoring.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/10/18</td>
<td>TX BoS CoC IRT completes Project Application reviews and scores Project Applications. THN staff ranks Project Applications according to the TX BoS CoC Board’s ranking procedure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/17/18</td>
<td>TX BoS CoC Board reviews and votes on TX BoS CoC Project Application reviews, scores, and ranking. Applicants advised by email of ranking and if project meets HUD and TX BoS CoC eligibility and will be submitted with the 2018 Consolidated Application. In addition, any changes that need to be made to Expansion Project Applications and/or reduced funding due to reallocations will be sent. Grievances due within 24 hours, per the Grievance Procedure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/18/18</td>
<td>Grievances due to <a href="mailto:TXBoSCoC@thn.org">TXBoSCoC@thn.org</a>.</td>
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</table>

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1 The threshold review of 2018 project applications will be cursory. **Applicants should not rely on THN staff for finding deficiencies.** HUD may choose to reject applications rather than award funds with conditions, as HUD has done in prior years.
This RFP and any part of the TX BoS CoC’s Local Application Process, including Project Applications, may be revised, based on information released by HUD. Changes will be sent via the TX BoS CoC’s email list and will be posted on THN’s website under the Competition Application Materials section— [http://thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/continuum-care-program/](http://thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/continuum-care-program/).

### Availability of Technical Assistance

Technical assistance is available to potential applicants on Monday, July 16th and Tuesday, July 17th. Additional dates may be added depending on the demand for TA sessions. Applicants may seek clarification on program requirements and project eligibility. THN will provide a schedule of technical assistance times, and Project Applicants may reserve times with THN staff. A Doodle poll will be sent listing available appointments via the CoC’s email list. **THN strongly suggests that project applicants needing assistance reserve available technical assistance times.**

Due to the limitations of being in an open competition, THN staff will be unable to provide any technical assistance that would confer an advantage to one project or groups of applicants over others. Examples of technical assistance that THN staff will be unable to provide during an open competition period include: advice on project design, specific edits to narrative sections, application strategy, etc.

### Communication

All competition-related communication will come from, and should be directed to, txboscoc@thn.org.

THN maintains an email list for competition-related communication. Only entities that attended the mandatory webinar will be added to that email list.

### Application Materials

#### For HUD

Applicants must complete the Applicant Profile and Project Application electronically in e-snaps (HUD’s online portal for CoC Program grant applications), per the FY2018 NOFA instructions. The application and instructions will be available to download from the HUD website at [https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2018-coc-program/](https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2018-coc-program/).
THN advises that applicants do NOT click “submit” in e-snaps until directed to do so by a THN staff member. Applicants will be notified when to submit their applications in e-snaps when they are notified if their application will be included with the TX BoS CoC Consolidated Application, no earlier than August 17, 2018.

For THN
In addition to completing the Applicant Profile and Project Application in e-snaps, Project Applicants are required to submit a complete application packet to THN as part of the local application process. See the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care 2018 Renewal Project Application Guide and Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care 2018 New/Expansion Project Application Guide.

Submitting Application Packets to THN
Applicants must submit one email per project with the attachments listed in the appropriate application packet. Use the naming conventions and file format requirements for each file found in the tables accompanying each project type’s section. Send only one email per project with all required files attached.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON FILE FORMAT:
Application materials completed in e-snaps must be exported directly from e-snaps to submit to THN. An Applicant Profile or Project Application that has been printed and scanned will not be accepted. Applicants must submit the PDF produced directly from e-snaps. All other materials in the application packet may be scanned, or can be sent in their original file formats (Word, PDF etc.).

Submissions out of compliance with the specified formats and file naming conventions will not be accepted.

Applicants are required to put “Application Packet: <Applicant Name>” in the subject line of their email, with the applicant’s name replacing “<Applicant Name>”.

Send application packets to: TXBoSCoC@thn.org.

Documents must be received by THN by 5:00 P.M. CDT on 2018.

Threshold Requirements
Threshold requirements are certain requirements that Project Applicants and Project Applications must meet in order to be considered for funding in the FY2018 CoC Program local application process. An application must first successfully pass a review of threshold requirements in order to be considered eligible for review by the TX BoS CoC IRT, which will score project applications. THN staff will perform a cursory threshold review of all submitted Project Applications, though Applicants should not rely on THN staff for finding deficiencies. Note that if a Project Application is found not to meet threshold requirements
on the federal level, HUD may choose to reject applications rather than award funds with conditions.

**Minimum Standards**

1. The only acceptable project types are:
   a. Renewal Projects
   b. New PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH, and SSO-CE Projects created through reallocation
   c. New PSH, RRH, and Joint TH & PH-RRH Projects created under the Bonus
   d. New RRH, Joint TH & RRH, and SSO-CE Projects created under the DV Bonus
   e. Expansion Projects for eligible Renewal Projects and for projects not currently funded by the CoC Program

2. All Projects must meet HUD eligibility, threshold, and project quality threshold requirements, per the 2018 CoC Program NOFA.

3. All Projects must meet the HUD required 25% match. (Note: Leasing funds are excluded from the 25% match requirement. For more information on matching requirements see 24 CFR Section 578.73).

4. Renewal Projects are only eligible to apply for up to their current grant amount, as listed on the final FY 2018 Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). Renewal Projects may be required to apply for a lesser amount through the TX BoS CoC Review, Score, and Ranking Policies and Reallocation Process.

5. DV Bonus and Bonus New Projects and Expansion Projects may request an administrative budget line item equal to or less than 10% of the total funding amount requested from HUD.

6. Persons served by the project must meet the HUD definition of homeless, per the HEARTH Act definition, and be eligible for service under CoC Program regulations AND must meet any additional project type eligibility requirements outlined in the NOFA.

7. **The application must be submitted on time** (see policy on late submissions in Appendix C).

8. The project must be feasible and the costs reasonable. The project must demonstrate that it is designed to move homeless persons toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

9. The application must demonstrate that the project will be able to proceed in a timely manner.

10. New and Renewal PSH projects must be 100% dedicated to serving chronically homeless persons and must follow TX BoS CoC Prioritization Standards for Chronically Homeless Households in Permanent Supportive Housing (see also Appendix B) OR must meet the DedicatedPLUS designation, as defined in the FY2018 NOFA.

11. All New and Renewal Projects providing housing must follow the Housing First model. For more information on the Housing First model, see Appendix D.

12. If there is evidence that a Project Applicant has been unwilling to accept technical assistance, has a history of inadequate financial accounting practices, has indications of project mismanagement (including, but not limited to, monitoring findings), has a drastic reduction in numbers of persons served, has made program changes without prior HUD approval, or has lost a project site, the Project Application may be rejected from the TX BoS CoC local application process.
Scoring and Ranking of Projects

In response to the FY2018 CoC Program NOFA, the TX BoS CoC may make significant changes in the ranking process for the FY2018 CoC Program competition in order to preserve as much project funding as possible and to demonstrate the CoC’s ability to reallocate project funding based on performance and fund expenditure.

The CoC Board will review and release the 2018 ranking, review, and reallocation process prior to the scoring and ranking of FY2018 project applications. The purpose of this evaluation process and prioritization strategy is to help the TX BoS CoC fully maximize CoC Program funds and make decisions related to scoring, ranking, and funding cuts, if needed. The process will be distributed to applicants via the TX BoS CoC FY2018 applicant email list.

THN staff will review Project Applications to determine eligibility for submission and meeting of application threshold criteria.

THN will establish an IRT comprised of general members of the TX BoS CoC and other homeless service professionals to review and score New Project, Renewal Project, and Expansion Project applications. No member with a conflict of interest (e.g., that member’s agency is submitting a project application) will sit on the IRT. IRT members who are found to have a vested interest in any project application shall recuse themselves from the discussion of and ranking of that particular project. The IRT will score Project Applications.

Project applications will be ranked based on evaluation scores from the IRT and on ranking criteria approved by the TX BoS CoC Board. The project review, scoring and ranking process and outcomes will be reviewed and voted on by the TX BoS CoC Board before THN submits the Consolidated Application to HUD.

Agencies submitting Project Applications must be available to discuss applications with THN staff and/or consultants, if requested, during the evaluation process.

Matching Funds and Documentation Requirements

Matching funds (‘match’) are cash or in-kind goods and services that an applicant commits to contribute to the project. More information on matching funds requirements may be found at 24 CFR 578.73.

Match Requirements for CoC Program Funding:

- 25% match is required for all project budget components except leasing
- Match can be cash or in-kind
- Match must be spent on program activities that would be eligible for CoC Program funding

Documenting match correctly will reduce delay in receiving your grant agreement from HUD, so pay careful attention to documentation requirements.
Types of match

- **Cash**: any funds that come from private or public resources (as long as they are not statutorily prohibited from being used as match)
- **In-kind**: services (counseling, legal advocacy, etc.), physical goods/equipment (food, furniture, clothing, etc.), and real property (donated land or buildings)

What can be used as match?

- Program income may be used as match. Project Applicants that intend to use program income as match must provide an estimate of how much program income will be used for match, and the source of the program income. CoC-generated program income includes occupancy charges paid to the recipient or sub-recipient.
- Contributions of cash, in-kind goods/equipment, and in-kind property that can be documented by letter and which cover costs that are eligible activities under the CoC Interim Rule.
- Contributions of in-kind services which cover costs that are eligible activities under the CoC Interim Rule. Must be documented by a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that is in place by the time of grant execution (i.e., when the grant term begins). For the purposes of the BoS application, applicants may submit a letter to THN instead of an MOU, provided the MOU will be in place by the time of grant execution. The letter or MOU must be dated between May 1, 2018 and September 18, 2018.
- Commitments of land, buildings, and equipment are one-time only and cannot be claimed in more than one competition. For example, donated land claimed in the 2018 competition cannot be claimed as match by that project or any other project in subsequent competitions.

What cannot be used as match?

- To be counted as match, the funds, goods, or services need to come directly from the contributing source to the organization. Items provided directly to and for individuals/program participants are not eligible as match. For example:
  - Mainstream benefits provided directly to program participants (e.g., SSI/SSDI disability benefits) cannot be used as match.
  - Funds from mainstream resources provided directly to an organization for use in a CoC project (e.g., Medicaid) can be used as match/leverage.

Documenting Match

- In general, match documentation must:
  1. Clearly document a firm financial commitment;
  2. Be signed by a person with authority, on the letterhead of the organization;
  3. Be conditioned only upon HUD approval of the grant;
  4. Be dated between May 1, 2018 and September 18, 2018.
  5. Include the amount being provided, and specifies that the amount is being used for matching funds.
- Cash match 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; and
5. Allowable activities to be funded by the cash match.

- In-Kind match specifications:
  1. Recipients and subrecipients using in-kind contributions may use the value of any real property, equipment, goods, or services contributed to the project as match, provided that if the recipient or subrecipients has to pay for them with grant funds, the costs would been eligible.
  2. During the term of the grant, the recipient and subrecipients must keep and make available for inspection, records documenting the value of real property, equipment, goods, or services.
  3. Recipients and subrecipients must adhere to the requirements of 24 CFR 84.23 and
  4. 24 CFR 85.24. Before grant execution, services to be provided by a third party must be documented in a MOU between the recipient or subrecipients and the third party that will provide the services. See 24 CFR 578.73(c)(3)d. Services provided by individuals must be valued at rates consistent with those ordinarily paid for similar work in the recipient or subrecipient organization. If the recipient or subrecipient does not have employees performing similar work, the rates must be consistent with those ordinarily paid by other employers for similar work in the same labor market. It is the responsibility of the grant recipient to provide evidence of cost reasonableness.

- Letters must meet the following criteria, in addition to the above requirements for cash match/leverage:
  1. Be on letterhead stationery from the organization providing the contribution
  2. Be signed and dated by an authorized official of the organization dated between May 1, 2018 and September 18, 2018
     - Please note that letters from prior years may not be used. If a document appears to be re-used from a previous year (ex: date changes with white-out) it will not be accepted by TX BoS CoC
  3. Contain the amount of the cash contribution OR the dollar value of the in-kind contribution (and must specify if such amounts are to be used for match or leverage)
  4. Contain the specific date the contribution will be made available AND the time period during which the contribution will be available
  5. Contain the name of the applicant agency to which the contribution is being given
  6. Contain the specific grant name/number and the fiscal year of the grant to which the contribution is being given
  7. Contain a description of the goods/services that will be provided (for in-kind contributions) OR a description of what the funds will be spent on (for cash contributions)

- MOUs must contain the following information:
  1. Agency Information:
     - Applicant agency’s identifying information with point(s) of contact
     - Service provider’s identifying information with point(s) of contact
2. Be signed and dated by an authorized official of the organization dated between May 1, 2018 and September 18, 2018.
   - Please note that MOUs from prior years may not be used. If a document appears to be re-used from a previous year (ex: date changes with white-out) it will not be accepted by TX BoS CoC.
3. Unconditional commitment (except for selection to receive a grant) of third-party provider to provide the services.
4. Description of specific services to be provided.
5. Scope of services to be provided and by whom.
   - Specific contract to be matched
   - Length of time services provided/term of contract
   - Point-in-time number of clients receiving service
   - Total clients receiving service over grant term
   - Qualification/profession of persons providing services
   - Estimated value of services provided (such as hourly rate)
6. Documentation of services match.
   - Documentation requirements and responsibilities of service provider and applicant agency
   - Timeliness standards of service provider and applicant agency for providing services to individuals

Documentation of match must be provided to HUD prior to grant agreement execution.
Appendix A

Texas Balance of State CoC Cities/Counties

Projects located in Consolidated Plan Entitlement Jurisdictions must have a Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan (Form HUD-2991) from the jurisdictions. The form allows a state or local official to certify that the proposed activities or projects are consistent with the jurisdiction’s Consolidated Plan. Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions may be identified using the search function on the HUD Exchange at https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/.

For communities with multiple renewal projects, one Consolidated Plan Certification from the jurisdiction, listing all project applications in the jurisdiction, can be submitted.

If your project is not located in an Entitlement Jurisdiction, the Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan will be provided by the State of Texas. Request a certification form from Elizabeth Yevich, Director of the Housing Resource Center at the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) at elizabeth.yevich@tdhca.state.tx.us.

Cities and Counties within the TX BoS CoC

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<tr>
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Appendix B

HUD CPD Notices and Regulations

- Notice CPD 15-02: Appropriate Placement for Transgender Persons in Single-Sex Emergency Shelters and Other Facilities
  

- Equal Access in Accordance with Gender Identity Final Rule
  

TX BoS CoC Notices and Regulations

- TX BoS CoC Coordinated Entry Written Standards
- TX BoS CoC Written Standards for Service Delivery
- CoC Policies and Procedures
Appendix C

TX BoS CoC Policy on Late Submissions

CoC Program Application Process/Local Competition

Late Submission of Project Applications

Approved by the TX BoS CoC Board 2-10-2016

Policy:

Project Applicants shall adhere to all due dates and deadlines related to the TX BoS CoC’s application process, also known as the local competition, for HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program funding. Project Applications must be submitted by the due date and time.

If a Project Application is not submitted by the due date and time, the TX BoS CoC Board will determine potential consequences, including but not limited to ranking, whether the project is ineligible for inclusion in the final TX BoS CoC’s Consolidated Application or will receive reduced funding.

Procedure:

THN staff will notify the Project Applicant via email when a Project Application is not submitted by the due date and time. THN staff will send a copy of this policy regarding late submissions.

THN staff will notify all CoC Board members via email when a Project Application is not submitted by the due date and time.

THN staff will schedule a webinar meeting with the CoC Board members to discuss potential consequences. The meeting will be held within 2 business days of the day that the Project Application was submitted late.

When determining potential consequences, the CoC Board will consider the following factors:

- Whether or not the Project Applicant has maintained regular communication with THN, as the CoC Lead Agency, during the application process/competition;
- Whether or not the Project Applicant has maintained regular communication with THN, as the CoC Lead Agency, throughout the prior year;
- How the Project has performed during the prior year;
- The rate of expenditures for the project in the prior year, as evidenced by LOCCS draw-downs;
- The potential impact of a decrease or loss of funding to the community where the project operates; and
- The potential impact of a decrease or loss of funding to the TX BoS CoC.
THN staff will provide information and data, as requested by CoC Board members. The CoC Board will determine consequences.

THN staff will inform the Project Applicant via email of the Board’s decision.

THN staff will inform HUD staff via email of the Board’s decision.

THN staff will maintain records of the proceedings and decisions related to the matter.
Appendix D

Housing First Questionnaire
FY 2018 TX BoS CoC Program Competition

Applicant Name:  
Project Name:  
Project Type:  

☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Expansion ☐ Hold Harmless

Describe the project's admissions process. Is there anything that would prevent a participant from enrolling in the project?

How long does it take the project to house a participant from identification to lease-up?

How does project staff engage in a continued effort to hold housing for participants, even if they leave their housing for short periods due to treatment, illness, or any temporary stay outside of the unit? Please copy/paste the policy that addresses short-term absences from assisted units.

Describe the techniques staff uses to ensure that engagement is regular, participant trust is developed, and outreach is relationship-focused.

What clinical and non-clinical trainings have your CoC project staff attended over the past year (June 1, 2017 – May 30, 2018)?
Please list the staff person, all relevant trainings, dates, and who provided the training.

Example:
Jim Ward, Housing Case Manager
Equal Access, 6/01/2017, National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)
Coordinated Entry Assessor 6/2/2017, THN

Are services offered in community-based settings of the participant’s choice rather than requiring appointments occur at a particular place? If yes, please explain.

Do case managers have access to transportation they can use to assist participants to obtain and sustain their housing? Please copy/paste relevant policies that govern transportation in Agency– owned and personal vehicles.

Does the project impose restrictions on length of stay outside that which would be mandated by HUD? (E.g. less than 24 months for RRH or any restriction on length of stay for PSH)
Appendix E

DedicatedPLUS

The DedicatedPLUS project designation is available in the FY2018 CoC NOFA for permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects. A DedicatedPLUS project is a permanent supportive housing project where 100% of the beds are dedicated to serve individuals with disabilities and families in which one adult or child has a disability, including unaccompanied homeless youth that at intake are:

(1) experiencing chronic homelessness, as defined in 24 CFR 578.3;

(2) residing in a transitional housing project that will be eliminated and meets the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individual or family entered the transitional housing project; [19 of 65];

(3) residing in a place not meant for human habitation, emergency shelter, or safe haven; but the individuals or families experiencing chronic homelessness as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 had been admitted and enrolled in a permanent housing project within the last year and were unable to maintain a housing placement;

(4) residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project and who were experiencing chronic homelessness as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 prior to entering the project;

(5) residing and has resided in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or emergency shelter for at least 12 months in the last three years, but has not done so on four separate occasions; or

(6) receiving assistance through a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA’s homeless assistance system. A renewal project where 100% of the beds were dedicated to chronically homeless individuals and families, as described in Section III.A.3.b., under the grant that is being renewed may either become a DedicatedPLUS project or may continue to dedicate 100% of its beds to chronically homeless individuals and families. If a renewal project that has 100% of its beds dedicated to chronically homeless individuals and families elects to become a DedicatedPLUS project, the project will be required to adhere to all fair housing requirements at 24 CFR 578.93.
## Appendix F

### Eligible 2018 Renewal Projects

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<th>Expiration Date</th>
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<td>City of Beaumont</td>
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<td>City of Texarkana</td>
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<td>Denton County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center</td>
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<td>Families in Crisis</td>
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<td>Sabine Valley Center</td>
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Appendix G
Grievance Procedure

Purpose

The purpose of the grievance procedure is to settle any disagreement between an Applicant Organization for the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program funding and the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC) as quickly and impartially as possible, to ensure an efficient, transparent, and fair competition.

Eligibility

A grievance may be filed by any Applicant Organization that claims it has been adversely affected by:

- Improper application of rules, regulations, and/or procedures concerning participation in the TX BoS CoC’s FY 2018 CoC Program application process, as outlined in the FY 2018 Request for Proposals (RFP) and the 2018 Review, Score, Ranking Policies and Re-Allocation Process once approved by the Board.
- Improper interpretation of rules, regulations, and/or procedures concerning participation in the TX BoS CoC’s FY 2018 CoC Program local application process, as outlined in the FY 2018 RFP and Re-Allocation Policy and Procedures;
- Disparity in the application of rules, regulations, and/or procedures regarding participation in the TX BoS CoC’s FY 2018 CoC Program application process, as outlined in the FY 2018 RFP and Re-Allocation Policy and Procedures;
- Violation of rules, regulations, and/or procedures concerning participation in the TX BoS CoC’s FY 2018 CoC Program application process, as outlined in the FY 2018 RFP and Re-Allocation Policy and Procedures; and/or
- The score assigned by the TX BoS CoC Independent Review Team (IRT).

Procedure for Filing Grievances and Grievance Appeals

The following steps must be taken, in the order given. Time limits shall begin on the first day after the applicable occurrence, filing, appeal, response, or recommendation. Due to the nature and time constraints of the CoC Program competition, working days shall include weekends and City, County, and/or Federal holidays.
Step 1 In order to be considered, a grievance must be filed in writing with the CoC Lead Agency, Texas Homeless Network (THN), within twenty-four (24) hours of notification of preliminary ranking results and whether or not the organization’s application will be included in the CoC’s Consolidated Application. An email clearly stating the issue and the policy which the Applicant Organization believes was violated is sufficient to serve as a written grievance. The Applicant Organization’s grievance email should be sent to the attention of CoC Director, Kameron Fowler, at txboscoc@thn.org. The CoC Lead Agency has twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of the Applicant Organization’s grievance email to respond in writing via email and to resolve the grievance.

Step 2

If the Applicant Organization is not satisfied with the response received by the CoC Lead Agency and/or proposed resolution, the Applicant Organization has twenty-four (24) hours to file a grievance appeal with the TX BoS CoC Board using the attached official form. This written grievance appeal should be sent to the attention of the TX BoS CoC Board at txboscoc@thn.org.

The TX BoS CoC Board has forty-eight (48) hours to investigate and respond in writing, using the attached official form. Applicant Organization should expect to receive the response via email. The Board’s decision/response is final and binding.

Step 3

If the Applicant Organization is not satisfied with the TX BoS CoC Board’s response, depending on the type of appeal, the Applicant Organization may file an appeal with HUD, as outlined in 24 CFR 578.35. Details can be found in Section X of the 2018 NOFA

General Provisions

1. The initial grievance must be submitted in writing to the TX BoS CoC within the allowable time frame, in order to be considered. Email is strongly preferred.
2. The Grievance Appeal Forms provided by the TX BoS CoC (attached) must be used in pursuing a grievance appeal.
3. To expedite the process the Applicant Organization should cite the applicable sections of the RFP, NOFA, and/or Re-Allocation P&P pertaining to their grievance.
Applicant Organization: ____________________________________________________________

Applicant Organization’s Address: __________________________________________________

Applicant Organization’s Phone Number: ____________________________________________

Applicant Representative:________________________  Job Title:__________________________

Applicant Representative’s Email Address:__________________________________________

We have received a response to our organization’s grievance from the CoC Director (or designated staff person, in his/her absence) on (date) _________________________. Because this answer is unacceptable to us, we wish to file a formal grievance appeal.

Nature of grievance appeal. Explain how your organization was unfairly treated, including names and dates, and cite the specific applicable sections of the RFP, NOFA and/or Re-Allocation P&P. (Use additional pages if needed.)
We believe a just and fair resolution of our grievance appeal is:

-----------------------------------
Date                                 Signature
-----------------------------------
TX BoS CoC’s FY 2018 CoC Program Application Process

Grievance Appeal Form – The TX BoS CoC Board Response

Applicant Organization: __________________________________________________________

Applicant Representative: ________________________________________________________

The TX BoS CoC Board Response to Applicant Organization’s Grievance Appeal:

If the Applicant Organization is not satisfied with the Board’s response, depending on the type of grievance appeal, the Applicant Organization may file an appeal with HUD as outlined in 24 CFR 578.35. Details can be found in Section X of the 2018 NOFA:

____________________________________
Printed Name

____________________
Date

____________________________________
Signature