

The 2022 Continuum of Care (CoC) Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (FR-6500-N-25S) was released on June 22, 2022. This [NOFO](#) makes available \$322 million to assist communities in addressing unsheltered and rural homelessness. This document is meant to provide a broad summary of this process and potential applicants should review the NOFO for important details.

Policy Priorities

Section II.A of the NOFO outlines HUD’s six policy priority areas that CoCs should consider when preparing their application for these funds.

Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has identified the priorities for this NOFO in two distinct ways:

1. by clearly laying out the ***policy priorities they want to advance*** with this funding, and
2. by telling applicants ***how they will score the application***.

These two sections of the NOFO are critical to understanding what HUD wants to achieve with this funding and how they are defining success.

Policy Priority	Summary
Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness NOFO Ref: p.6/ II.A.1	Identify people living unsheltered (including encampments) and connect them directly to health and housing resources. Enhance Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to collect more comprehensive data on people living unsheltered.
Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness and Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs in Rural Areas NOFO Ref: p.6/II.A.2	Rural areas often lack infrastructure and have unique challenges to providing homeless services and permanent housing. Target resources to rural areas and utilize additional eligible activities available in this NOFO to address the unique needs of rural areas.
Providing Assistance on Tribal Lands NOFO Ref: p.6-7/II.A.3	Indian Reservations and Trust Lands are now eligible recipients of CoC funds. CoCs are incentivized to create projects in areas where CoC services have been <u>entirely unavailable</u> and have high levels of homelessness, housing distress, or poverty.
Involving a Broad Array of Stakeholders in the CoC’s Efforts to Reduce Homelessness NOFO Ref: p.7/II.A.4	Homeless services alone will not end homelessness. CoCs are encouraged to coordinate with a variety of stakeholders to develop and implement the CoC’s plan to serve the populations detailed in this NOFO.
Advancing Equity NOFO Ref: p.7/II.A.5	BIPOC, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities, and other marginalized populations are overrepresented in the homeless population. HUD is emphasizing system and program changes needed to identify and address the needs of people who are disproportionately more likely to experience homelessness.
Using a Housing First Approach NOFO Ref: p.7/II.A.6	Projects funded under this NOFO should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing. CoCs should ensure that projects are correctly implementing a Housing First approach.

Application Scoring

HUD will use two separate processes to select projects for this NOFO – one for the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and one for the Rural Set Aside. (A summary of this process can be found on page 8 of the NOFO in **Section II.B.2**)

Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside – CoCs will be selected for funding, including all rated and ranked projects that pass threshold until funding runs out.

Planning and Unified Funding Agency (UFA) costs are only available for the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and must be ranked on the CoC Priority Listing. This is different than CoC Planning and UFA costs in the regular CoC competition.

Rural Set Aside – Projects will be selected for funding based on project application scores using a 100 point scale. Hard costs (acquisition, rehab and new construction) are only allowed in the Rural Set Aside. Rural projects will be scored as follows (**Section II.B.2.b** on p.8 of the NOFO):

Project Scoring Criteria	Description	Points
CoC Score	Score is determined in direct proportion to the score received on required questions from the CoC application. Not all CoC application questions are required for CoCs applying only for rural projects.	Up to 50 points
CoC Project Ranking	Score is determined based on the CoC’s ranking of the project application.	Up to 40 points
Serving Structurally Disadvantaged Areas	A total of 10 points is available for applications that commit to serving individuals/families in geographic areas that have high levels of homelessness, housing distress, or poverty and are located where CoC services have been entirely unavailable, such as trust lands and reservations.	10 points
Total: 100 Points		

Section VII.B of the NOFO (beginning on p.39) describes the factors HUD will use to establish the CoC score.

CoC Scoring Criteria Categories	Unsheltered Set-Aside	Rural Set-Aside	Points
Project Capacity, Review and Ranking: Existence of a coordinated, inclusive and outcome-oriented community process for developing the application.	Complete Entire Section	Complete Entire Section	4 points
System Performance: CoC system-wide performance measurement process related to reducing homelessness.	Complete Entire Section	Complete Entire Section	18 points

CoC Scoring Criteria Categories	Unsheltered Set-Aside	Rural Set-Aside	Points
<p>Coordination and Engagement: Coordination with other systems of care that serve homeless individuals and families including sources other than the CoC program.</p>	Complete Entire Section	Complete Entire Section	8 points
<p>CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs: Describe in up to 15 pages (not including attachments):</p> <p>how the CoC will leverage housing and healthcare resources and conduct landlord recruitment;</p> <p>what the CoC is currently doing and plans to do to identify, shelter, and house people who are unsheltered;</p> <p>how the CoC will prioritize people experiencing or with histories of unsheltered homelessness;</p> <p>how the CoC involves people with lived experience of homelessness in decision-making; and</p> <p>how the CoC will support and serve underserved communities and offer equitable housing interventions.</p>	Complete Entire Section	Only Complete Questions Labeled “Required for Rural Set-Aside”	Unsheltered = 70 points Rural = 59 points
<p>Unsheltered Homelessness Bonus: HUD will award bonus points based on the number of unsheltered people reported in the 2019 Point in Time Count.</p> <p>10,000 or more unsheltered people = 30 points</p> <p>5,000 to 9,999 unsheltered people = 20 points</p> <p>1,000 to 4,999 unsheltered people = 10 points</p> <p>999 or fewer unsheltered people = 0 points</p>	Only Applies to Unsheltered Set Aside	Does Not Apply to Rural Set Aside	Up to 30 points
<p>TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE:</p> <p>Up to 100 Regular Points <u>and</u> up to 30 Bonus Points (Unsheltered) Up to 89 Regular Points (Rural)</p>			