



PA-504 FY 2017 CoC Program Competition: What's New and FAQ's

Updated August 4, 2017

Collaborative Applicant: Office of Housing and Community Development,
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To learn more or download the CoC Notice of Funding Availability:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2017-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition>



PA-504 FY 2017 CoC Program Estimated Competition Timeline

- Issue New Project Applications: August 4, 2017 **(Due August 17, 2017)**
- Issue Renewal Project Applications: August 7, 2017 **(Due August 17, 2017)**
- Your Way Home CoC Governance Team Meeting to Review CoC Application Process: **August 16, 2017**
- Ranking and Scoring of CoC projects Submitted to Governance Team for Review and Approval: **September 7, 2017**
- Ranking and Scoring Published/Applicants Notified: **September 8, 2017**
- CoC Application Writing/Editing: **September 11-19, 2017**
- Post Draft Application for Community Review and Public Comments: Estimated Date: **September 20, 2017**
- Submit Application to HUD: **On or before September 28, 2017**

FY 2017 CoC Program Competition: What's New?

1. The estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) for PA-504 is: \$2,886,837.
2. Tier 1 is 94 percent of the CoC's ARD amount. The estimated Tier 1 ARD for PA-504 is: \$2,713,627.
3. The amount available for the Permanent Housing Bonus is 6 percent of the CoC's Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN). The estimated Permanent Housing Bonus for New Projects for PA-504 is \$173,210.
4. Renewal project applicants for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) may choose to convert existing projects to HUD's new **DedicatedPLUS** designation (see below) which is strongly encouraged by the collaborative applicant.
5. Renewal project applicants may submit their renewal project applications with no changes right away on e-snaps (except for PSH renewal projects that are converting to the new DedicatedPLUS designation). Detailed Instructions on how to complete your FY 2017 Renewal Application are posted on the HUD Exchange.
6. HUD has made several changes to the eligibility requirements for permanent housing, permanent supportive housing, and rapid rehousing. Applicants should carefully read the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition NOFA regarding these changes.



7. Most of the mandatory HUD form attachments have been moved to e-snaps as fillable forms that only require a checkbox certification with the project applicant's authorized representative information. The only HUD required form that remains an attachment is the HUD-2991, Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan, and it must be attached by the Collaborative Applicant (Office of Housing & Community Development) to the FY 2017 CoC Priority Listing.
8. Tier 2 project-level scoring has been revised to include only three criteria – CoC Application score, ranked position of the project application in Tier 2, and the project application's commitment to Housing First.
9. System Performance Measurement information will be largely scored on data submitted by the CoC to the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX), although CoCs will be required to attach the FY 2017 Competition Report to their CoC Application in e-snaps.
10. The local ranking process continues to be crucial to making the CoC Program as effective as possible. PA-504 CoC will use the new HUD-recommended scoring criteria for FY 2017. CoCs should use objective, performance-based criteria to rate projects and should consider both the need to serve particular populations of people experiencing homelessness (for example, survivors of domestic violence, youth, and persons with substance use disorders) and the effectiveness of their projects in reducing homelessness.
11. All applicants must have a current HUD-approved Code of Conduct. Most organizations' Codes of Conduct were removed from HUD's website in early 2017, as they did not meet the requirements of 2 CFR part 200, and the organizations were notified by HUD office that a new Code of Conduct must be submitted. Be sure to review the Code of Conduct for HUD Grant Programs page on HUD's website to ensure your organization is listed which means you have submitted an approved Code of Conduct. If you do not see your organization on the list, be sure to attach a current and complete Code of Conduct to your Project Applicant Profile in e-snaps.



FY 2017 CoC Program Competition: DedicatedPLUS

A permanent supportive housing project where 100 percent 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;
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.

Project applicants may use DedicatedPLUS when creating a new project application through reallocation or permanent housing bonus and renewal project applications may choose to change a 100 percent dedicated project to a DedicatedPLUS project in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition.

FY 2017 CoC Program Competition: Expanding CoC Program-funded projects

HUD has introduced a new way to expand CoC Program-funded projects which will allow an eligible renewal project to expand units, beds, persons, or through the reallocation process or permanent housing bonus. A new project application is required and only available to the type of projects allowed under the reallocation process or permanent housing bonus.

Project applicants can also expand a project under the traditional method, e.g., expand an existing project funded through other sources with the request of CoC Program funds to add persons, units, or services.



FY 2017 CoC Program Competition: Selected HUD FAQs

Q1. What types of new projects are eligible for the 2017 CoC Competition?

HUD expanded the types of project applications CoCs can apply for through reallocation in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition. The following types of new project applications may be created through the FY 2017 reallocation process:

1. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) that meets the requirements of **DedicatedPLUS** as defined in Section III.A.3.d. of the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition NOFA or new PSH projects where 100 percent of the beds are dedicated to chronic homelessness;
2. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) that will serve homeless individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth, who meet the following criteria:
residing in a place not meant for human habitation, residing in an emergency shelter, persons meeting the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless, including persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence situations, residing in a transitional housing project that was eliminated in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition, residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH Component project (see Section III.A.3.h. of the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition NOFA), or receiving services from a VA-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to VA's homeless assistance system;
3. Joint TH and PH-RRH Component as defined in Section III.A.3.h. of the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition NOFA; and
4. Supportive Services Only (SSO) project to develop or operate a new centralized or coordinated assessment system.



Q2. What is a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project?

A Joint TH and PH-RRH Component project is a new project type in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition that includes two existing program components—TH and PH-RRH—in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. If funded, HUD will limit eligible costs as follows:

- capital costs (i.e., new construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition), leasing of a structure or units, and operating costs to provide transitional housing;
- short- or medium-term tenant-based rental assistance on behalf of program participants in the rapid rehousing portion of the project;
- supportive services for the entire project;
- HMIS for the entire project; and project administrative costs for the entire project.

If awarded, recipients or subrecipients must be able to provide both components, including the units supported by the transitional housing component and the tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component, to all program participants up to 24 months as needed by the program participants. For example, a program participant may only need the temporary stay in transitional housing unit, but the recipient or subrecipient must be able to make available the financial assistance and supportive services that traditionally comes with rapid re-housing assistance to that program participant. This does not mean, however, that the applicant is required to request funding from the CoC Program for both portions of the project (e.g., the applicant may leverage other resources to pay for the transitional housing portion of the project).

Q3. Is it possible to re-categorize an existing CoC Program-funded transitional housing project or rapid re-housing project to a Joint TH and PH-RRH Project?

All Joint TH and PH-RRH projects must be submitted as new projects in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition. This means that an existing CoC recipient cannot re-categorize an existing project (i.e., by amending an existing grant agreement) to create a renewal Joint TH and PH-RRH project in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition. If your Agency is interested in applying for the Joint TH and PH-RRH Component project, the CoC must either reduce or



eliminate an existing grant(s) to create a new project using the reallocation process or create a new project using the CoC's permanent housing bonus amount.

Q4. In past CoC Program Competitions, HUD only permitted new rapid rehousing (RRH) projects to serve individuals and families who were residing on the streets or in emergency shelters, or who were fleeing domestic violence. Can RRH projects use FY 2017 CoC Program funds to serve participants coming from locations other than these?

Yes, RRH projects awarded funds in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition can serve individuals, including unaccompanied youth, and families experiencing homelessness who meet the following criteria:

- Residing in a place not meant for human habitation;
- Residing in an emergency shelter;
- Meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless, including persons fleeing domestic violence situations and persons fleeing human trafficking;
- Residing in a transitional housing project that was eliminated in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition;
- Residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH Component project;
- 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.

Q5. What does the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition NOFA mean when it states that CoCs may only reallocate eligible renewal projects that were previously renewed under the CoC Program?

CoCs may only reallocate a renewal project that will be under grant agreement by December 31, 2017 and will have an expiration date in Calendar Year (CY) 2018 (between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018). Further, in FY 2017 CoCs may only reduce or eliminate projects for the reallocation process that meet the following criteria:



- Were originally awarded under the CoC Program and have already renewed at least once under the CoC Program prior to the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition; or
- Were originally awarded under the Supportive Housing Program or the Shelter Plus Care Program and are renewing for the first time in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition.

This means, for example, that a new project that was awarded for the first time in the FY 2016 CoC Program Competition may not be used in the reallocation process in FY 2017 CoC Program Competition. However, a project that was originally awarded as in the FY 2014 CoC Program Competition and has subsequently renewed in two previous competitions may be used in the reallocation process.

Q6. The FY 2017 CoC Program Competition NOFA states that a new process this year will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project under the reallocation process or permanent housing bonus to expand an existing eligible renewal project. Has this not always been the case as we recall indicating in a previous new project application that we answered questions regarding the expansion of an existing project? Is there a difference?

It is true, CoCs have been able to apply for projects that expand existing renewal projects through reallocation or the Permanent Housing Bonus in prior years' competitions. What is new this year is that in this instance, is that if awarded the "new" expansion portion of the project will be combined with the renewing project in a single grant agreement that adopts the renewing project's program operating year. Previously, a project that wanted to add funds to add additional participants, units, services, etc., would complete the expansion form in the new project application and, if awarded funds would operate two grant agreements for the single project and perhaps request a grant agreement consolidation a few years later.



Because of this change, it is critical that expansion projects that are expanding existing CoC Program funded renewal projects follow the detailed instructions for the project application. This means the project applicant must:

- provide the eligible renewal grant number that the project applicant requests to expand on the new project application;
- clearly indicate how the new project application will expand units, beds, services, persons served;
- ensure the funding request for the new expansion project is within the funding parameters allowed under the reallocation process or permanent housing bonus.

There is nothing in this new policy that prohibits CoCs from expanding a project that is currently receiving money from another funding source—which is a second type of eligible expansion. However, in this case, the project applicant will not be required to follow the instruction above because there is no CoC Program renewal grant to expand.

All new expansion project applications, including both those that renew existing CoC Program funding and those that renew projects funded through other sources, will be reviewed using the procedures and selection criteria established in Section V.G.2.c. of the 2017 CoC NOFA. If the new expansion project exceeds the amount of funding available under the reallocation process or permanent housing bonus amount, HUD will reduce the funding request to the available amount, which could affect the activities of the new expansion project. If the renewal project application is not conditionally selected for funding, the expansion project application will not be selected.

Q7. Can you explain the difference between beds dedicated to chronically homeless individuals and families and project applications that are identified as DedicatedPLUS?

Beds that are dedicated to chronically homeless individuals and families are those beds dedicated specifically for use by chronically homeless individuals and families within a CoC's geographic area, as reported in the CoC's HIC and the FY 2016 permanent housing project applications. When a program participant exits the project, the bed must be filled by



another chronically homeless participant unless there are no chronically homeless persons located within the CoC's geographic area. This concept only applies to permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects. If a project is made up of 100 percent dedicated beds, this is what HUD commonly refers to as a project that is 100 percent dedicated for chronically homeless individuals and families.

In the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition, HUD created the DedicatedPLUS concept to provide more flexibility to communities, particularly those that have already dedicated 100 percent of the PSH resources to chronic homelessness, to expand their eligibility to serve persons with long histories of homelessness and severe service needs who would not meet the definition of chronic homelessness at project entry. The DedicatedPLUS concept applies at the project level. All new PSH projects are required to either be (1) 100 percent dedicated to chronic homelessness or (2) DedicatedPLUS. Renewal PSH projects may choose to change their classification to DedicatedPLUS as part of their project application.

DedicatedPLUS projects may serve individuals and families with disabilities and families that meet the following criteria at project entry:

- experiencing chronic homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 578.3;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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
- 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.

DedicatedPLUS projects may still choose to dedicate some of their beds to those experiencing chronic homelessness, and in these cases HUD will expect that those beds serve individuals and families meeting HUD's definition of chronic homelessness and be filled by another chronically homeless participant unless there are no chronically homeless persons located within the CoC's geographic area. For example, if a new PSH project applies for 100 beds and chooses to dedicate 50 of those beds to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness, then HUD will expect that at any given time 50 of the beds be filled by someone who met HUD's definition of chronic homelessness at project entry. The remaining 50 beds may be used to serve individuals and families meeting the criteria described above.