

GA-500 Continuum of Care (CoC) HUD CoC NOFO Competition Policy

Introduction:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year 2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition on November 13, 2025. The purpose of the funding is to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness and to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, states, local governments, and Indian Tribes or tribally designated housing entities to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, youth, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families, and to optimize self-sufficiency.

For the FY 2025 NOFO, HUD will continue to require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects, except CoC planning, in two tiers. Tier 1 is equal to 30 percent of the combined Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) for all projects eligible for renewal. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the sum of the CoC's ARD, CoC Bonus, and DV Bonus funds. All new and renewal projects, including YHDP, will need to be ranked within the two tiers.

As the Collaborative Applicant for the Atlanta Continuum of Care (CoC), Partners for HOME is responsible for organizing, collecting and submitting the CoC Consolidated Application for HUD CoC funding. This includes running the local competition, and submitting the Consolidated CoC application to HUD, which includes the CoC application, the selected project applications, and the priority listing.

Updated information and materials will be posted on the <u>Partners for HOME HUD CoC Program Competition</u> webpage. While this document will provide an overview of the process, all interested parties and applicants should read the NOFO and all related materials in their entirety, as well the materials that will be posted on the Partners for HOME website. Some key components that will apply to the local competition process are below.

Atlanta CoC Project Priorities:

In accordance with the annual HUD NOFO priorities, the Atlanta CoC establishes funding and project prioritization that will help guide project ideas for application submission. The following funding priorities will guide project planning, application development, and the ranking and review process:

- 1. Top Performing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Projects will be prioritized up to the 30% Permeant Housing cap implemented by the NOFO. These projects will be prioritized in Tier 1 on the CoC's Priority List.
- 2. Dedicated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Supportive Service Only (SSO)-Coordinated Entry Grants will be prioritized in Tier 2 on the CoC's Priority List.
- 3. Transitional Housing (TH) Projects with Healthcare or Housing Leverage
- 4. Transitional Housing (TH) Projects without Healthcare or Housing Leverage



Funding Availability:

CoC	PPRN	Estimated ARD	Tier 1	Tier 2	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus
GA-500 Atlanta CoC	\$11,078,872	\$13,856,689	\$4,157,007	\$13,578,907	\$2,771,338	\$1,107,887

The HUD CoC Competition is a competitive funding process, locally and nationally. Submission of an application locally does not guarantee funding and inclusion in the CoC Consolidated Application to HUD does not guarantee funding.

HUD releases the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD), which is the amount each CoC can apply for, not including any bonus funding that HUD makes available.

Typically, HUD then determines two levels or tiers that CoCs need to rank their projects, with each tier being a certain percentage of their ARD. Projects that are in Tier 1 of a CoCs ranking will typically be fully funded by HUD, provided they meet all eligibility and risk review requirements. Projects in Tier 2 of a CoCs ranking will be funded based on availability of funding, the overall score of the CoC application, the rank of the project, and the implementation of service participation requirements. HUD will select the projects in Tier 2 based on point value until there is no more funding left. Projects in Tier 2 are at risk of not being funded HUD.

Eligible Applicants:

Non-profit organizations and units of local government that have the capacity to administer federal funding and have experience administering programs and services that assist people experiencing homelessness and/or a housing crisis are eligible to apply for FY 2025 HUD CoC funding.

Project Application Review and Oversight

HUD expects each CoC to implement a thorough review and oversight process at the local level for both new and renewal project applications submitted to HUD in the FY 2025 CoC Program Competition. To meet this expectation, the CoC closely reviews information provided in each project application in order to ensure that:

- 1. All proposed program participants will be eligible for the program component type selected;
- 2. The proposed activities are eligible under 24 CFR Part 578;
- 3. Each project narrative is fully responsive to the question being asked and that it meets all of the criteria for that question as required by the FY 2025 NOFO and included in the detailed instructions provided in e-snaps; and
- 4. The data provided in various parts of the project application are consistent



Local Project Applications:

All renewal, expansion, and new projects are required to submit a local project application. The CoC local project application components and narratives serve to: (1) confirm the capacity of agencies to provide CoC funded programs; (2) provide information on program delivery in order to evaluate performance and meeting HUD criteria for scoring and ranking of projects by the Rank and Review committee; and (3) provide project level narrative to be utilized in the CoC Consolidated Application. The New Project and Renewal Project Supplemental Applications can be on the PFH website: https://partnersforhome.org/hud-coc-program-competition/

Rating Criteria:

Each of the questions included in the local project applications correspond to criteria articulated in the CoC's Project Scoring Tools and the FY 2025 CoC NOFO. According to guidance from HUD, CoCs should use objective, performance-based scoring criteria and selection priorities to determine the extent to which each project addresses HUD's policy priorities.

Ranking:

The Atlanta CoC's Rank and Review Committee is an independent group comprised of community members and Atlanta CoC representatives that will score and rank project applications based on HUD and Atlanta CoC priorities. Rankings will be submitted to the Governing Council for final approval and then be announced to the CoC membership and public. Project applications will be ranked highest to lowest except for:

- The CoC Planning Grant which will not be ranked.
- Coordinated Entry and HMIS grants will be placed at the top of Tier 2.

Reduction and Reallocation:

The Rank and Review Committee will use a reduction and reallocation process to ensure all renewing projects are drawing down funds accordingly, cost-effective, meeting performance benchmarks, and in line with HUD and the CoC's priorities. The reduction and reallocation process allows the CoC to redistribute current funds to where they can best be used to end homelessness in the City of Atlanta. For more details, please see the **GA-500 Continuum of Care (CoC) HUD Grant Reduction and Reallocation Policy**.

New Projects:

As part of the annual competition, the Atlanta CoC anticipates soliciting new projects, in addition to having the existing projects apply for renewal funding. New projects solicitations will be based on HUD and CoC priorities and will be scored on measures as such.

Notification and Public Posting:

All applicants will be notified of the process and results of their applications of whether they will be included or not in the CoC application to HUD by email. Additionally, all CoC related notifications will be sent to the CoC email list and posted on the PFH webpage. This includes, but is not limited to, application openings, initial scores, initial ranking and appeal process, final ranking and tiering, and notification of final CoC application positing and submission to HUD.



Local Competition Appeals Process:

Once the Rating and Ranking committee has reviewed and scored the submitted applications the results will be emailed to applicants' points of contact listed in the application. The results will also be publicized in accordance with any requirements in the FY 2025 CoC NOFO.

Applicants who have specific concerns regarding the review and scoring of their application may file an appeal within 7 days of receiving notification of the Rating and Ranking results. Appeals will only be considered in cases where applicants have material concerns specific to the review process and scoring of their application. Appeals specific to the funding recommendation will not be considered. (See "Eligible Appeals" below.)

All notices of appeal must be based on the information submitted by the application due date. No new or additional information will be considered. Omissions on the application submitted by the applicant cannot be appealed.

An Appeals Committee will be formed composed of the governance committee members and one member of the Rating and Ranking committee (non-voting.) The voting members of the Appeals Committee will not have reviewed the application seeking appeal review or have a conflict of interest with any of the agencies applying for the applicable funding. The Appeals Committee will review each appeal to determine whether the appeal meets the eligibility criteria stated below. The Appeals Committee will review only those areas of the application that are being appealed.

The recommendation of the Appeals Committee will be final.

Eligible Appeals:

Applicants may appeal if they can:

- Prove their score is not reflective of the application information provided; or
- Describe bias or unfairness in the process, which warrants the appeal