PARTNERS FOR HOME

GA-500 HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) FY 2026 NOFO Competition Policy

FY 2026 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Introduction:

The purpose of the CoC Program 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 2026 CoC NOFO, HUD will continue to require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects, except CoC planning, in two tiers. Tier 1 is equal to 60 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. However, HUD has made significant policy priority shifts in this NOFO asserting that Housing First is a failure and that transitional housing and services only projects will take priority over permanent housing renewals that fall into Tier 2.

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 Partners for HOME HUD CoC Program Competition webpage. While this document will provide an overview of the process, all interested parties and applicants should read the FY 2026 CoC NOFO and all related materials in their entirety, as well as 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 FY 2026 CoC NOFO priorities, the Atlanta CoC has established funding and project priorities that will help guide project ideas and strategies for application submission. The following funding priorities will guide project planning, application development, and the ranking and review process:

*All projects must implement service participation requirements in TH, RRH, PSH, and Joint TH/ RRH projects. This is a CoC Threshold Requirement.

1. Dedicated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) renewal grants will be prioritized in Tier 1 on the CoC's Priority List.
2. Top-performing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Non-Leasing Projects.
3. Top-performing Leasing PSH Projects.

*In the event that a PSH project is not ranked in Tier 1, leasing PSH projects that would like to submit a New Project Transition Grant or New Project entirely will need to submit a Transition/New Project a by the application deadline for those renewals not ranking in Tier I of July 29, 2026. Please note: the Transition Grant/New Project(s) will compete to be ranked in Tier 2 with all other remaining eligible projects

4. New Transitional Housing Projects
5. New SSO Outreach Projects prioritizing encampment engagement and coordination with City partners for compassionate closures.
6. New SSO Projects partnering with Emergency and Non-Emergency Service Lines such as 311, 911, and 988.
7. New SSO Projects for zero-barrier 24/7 access service facilities for unsheltered households.
8. New projects prioritizing access to employment and income.

Funding Availability (HUD has not released the Grant Inventory Worksheet yet):

CoC	PPRN	Estimated ARD	Tier 1	Tier 2	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus
GA-500 Atlanta CoC	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

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

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, HUD's funding selection process, 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 funding selection priorities and the Tier 2 project score until there is no more funding left. Projects in Tier 2 are at risk of not being funded by HUD.

Please note: HUD has significantly changed their project selection process in this year's competition.

- $1.3 billion set-aside nationally prioritized for NEW Transitional Housing and Supportive Services Only (includes street outreach)
- **Renewal projects in Tier 2 will be the last projects to be funded by HUD and are at the highest risk of not being funded in this competition. All renewal applicants will need to consider the implications of the CoC Project Priorities in this document for their renewal projects.**

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Eligible Applicants:

Non-profit organizations, Public Housing Authorities, States, 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 2026 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 2026 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 project will meet all applicable threshold requirements established in the FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO;
3. The proposed activities are eligible under 24 CFR Part 578;
4. 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 2026 CoC Program NOFO and included in the detailed instructions for the application type; and
5. 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 Applications can be on the PFH website:** https://partnersforhome.org/hud-coc-program-competition/.

Rating Criteria:

Many of the questions included in the local project applications correspond to criteria articulated in the CoC's Project Scoring Tools and the FY 2026 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.
- HMIS grants will be placed in Tier 1
- No SSO projects will be allowed to submit a renewal project and instead should submit a new SSO project in line with policy priorities outlined herein.

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 on the PFH website.

New Projects:

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

HUD has allotted an additional 2% in planning grant funds for the collaborative applicant. Partners for HOME will utilize new planning funds to assist CoC providers with making necessary transitions to new projects and support tenants in securing alternate housing placements when needed.

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 application notifications will be sent to the CoC email listserv and posted on the PFH webpage. This includes, but is not limited to, local competition openings, initial project scores, initial ranking and appeal process, final ranking and tiering, and notification of final CoC application posting 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 2026 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