

TO: DUPAGE IL 514 HOMELESS CONTINUUM MEMBERS and STAKEHOLDERS
FROM: DUPAGE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES, Collaborative Applicant
RE: 2021 Continuum of Care NOFO HIGHLIGHTS
DATE: August 26, 2021

HUD published the FY2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Funding Notice for Homeless Assistance Grants on August 18, 2021. Approximately \$2.65 billion is available. Of this, \$102 million is available for Domestic Violence bonus projects. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition (NOFO) has been posted on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and is available on the [Funding Opportunities](#) page on HUD's website. Additional resources are available on the [Continuum of Care Program Competition](#) page of HUD's website. The CoC Consolidated Application, CoC Priority Listing, and Project Applications are available in *e-snaps*. Collaborative Applicants and project applicants are able to access the applications to review, update, and enter required information for the application process. Additional guidance is posted on the [CoC Program Competition](#) page of HUD's website. The HUD deadline date is November 16, 2021.

DUPAGE COC DEADLINES

September 15, 2021 – All new project applicants will submit a project template for evaluation.
September 22, 2021 – Each renewal project applicant will submit a project template for evaluation.
October 1, 2021 – Each project will submit their project in *e-snaps* for final review.

Esnaps submission of projects may be no later than 30 days before the HUD deadline of 11/16/21. The DuPage CoC will notify all project applicants no later than 15 days before the application deadline of November 16, 2021 whether their project application will be accepted and ranked, rejected or reduced as part of the CoC Consolidated application and of their number ranking. Project application deadlines and materials will be posted on <https://dupagehomeless.org/cocoverview/hud-nofo/>.

Project submission instructions for esnaps will be reviewed at an **APPLICATION WORKSHOP scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2021 from 2:30 pm. – 3:30 pm.** This is a Zoom meeting and the link will be sent out ahead of time.

FUNDING AMOUNTS

ANNUAL RENEWAL DEMAND (ARD) –The total amount for all projects eligible for renewal in the 2021 competition based on the HUD approved Grants Inventory Worksheet. The DuPage CoC Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) amount approved was **\$ \$5,182,602.**

NEW PROJECTS

New projects may be created through the reallocation process, bonus funds, or a combination of reallocation and bonus funds. There is an amount allocated to each CoC for bonus projects that is equal to 5% of the Final Pro Rata Need. **This amount is \$259,130. Multiple projects are allowed. There may also be reallocation funds available. Reallocation and bonus funds may be combined to funds new projects.** All New project applications are included in the project tiering except Planning.

5 types of new projects are allowed:

- Permanent supportive housing that serve chronically homeless or that meet the Dedicated PLUS definition. See NOFO definition p. 17
- Rapid Rehousing projects that serve individuals, families and unaccompanied youth who meet the NOFO criteria. See NOFO p. 17
- Joint TH and PH-RRH component project who meet the NOFO criteria– See NOFO p.17
- Dedicated HMIS (only by the current HMIS Lead)
- Coordinated Entry (supportive services only) to develop or operate a coordinated entry system.

NEW PROJECTS CREATED THROUGH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BONUS FUNDS

There is an additional amount allocated to each CoC for projects dedicated to victims of domestic violence. This amount is **\$497,652**. Projects must serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The eligible population is survivors of domestic violence who are defined as homeless at 24CFR 578.3 (4). All DV projects must be for a grant term of 1 year. These projects will be selected by HUD based on CoC Score plus other criterion noted in NOFO p.15 using a 100 point scale. CoCs may create any of the following project types if the amount is at least \$50,000:

- Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH);
- Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH)
- Supportive Services Only-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) that targets victims of domestic violence. (Only one Coordinated Entry application is allowed).

COC PLANNING COSTS – Eligible costs are related to the collaborative process for an application to HUD, evaluating the outcomes of projects, and participating in the jurisdiction's consolidated planning process. The total amount available for this year is **\$155,478**.

PROJECT TIERING - The CoC will submit a Priority Listing that lists the new and renewal projects that are being applied for. All projects that are approved for inclusion will be prioritized in a two tier approach. The tiers are financial thresholds. Tier 1 is 100% of the Annual Renewal Demand for current projects. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation and bonus funds available. (excluding the DV bonus amount). The Planning project is excluded from tiering. Tier 2 project-level scoring remains the same with 3 criteria – CoC Application score, ranked position of the project application in Tier 2, and the project application's commitment to Low Barriers to Entry. Up to 50 pts CoC Score + 40 pts Rank number in Tier 2 + 10pts. Low Barriers to Entry project.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2021!

- CoCs can obtain Bonus points for submitting new projects that have leveraging agreements with housing providers and health care organizations.
- HUD continues to provide opportunities to expand or consolidate CoC projects. There will not be any combined applications submitted, only stand alone and HUD will combine if awarded.
- Expansions submit a stand alone renewal application and a stand alone new project application.
- Consolidations submit 2 individual stand alone renewal project applications.
- Transition Grants are permitted from one CoC Program Component by using the reallocation process to eliminate the current project and reallocate it to the new project type. Conditions apply. Examples: transition from a PSH to a Rapid Rehousing or a Transitional Housing to a Joint TH-RRH.
- Indian Tribes are eligible to apply for projects through existing CoCs this year.
- Using the Housing First model without service participation requirements returns in 2021.
- Promoting racial equity should be part of the CoC ranking and review process for projects.

- Points were added to the CoC application related to how the challenges of Covid 19 were met for homeless persons.
- In 2021, only the sheltered count of homeless persons will be evaluated. HUD will measure both sheltered and unsheltered persons in 2022.
- Bonus funding is contingent on the CoC demonstrating reallocation AND using system performance criteria in their project scoring system.
- CoC Mergers are encouraged and bonus points are available for merging.

Questions regarding the FY 2021 CoC Program Competition process must be submitted to CoCNOFO@hud.gov. Questions related to *e-snaps* functionality (e.g., password lockout, access to user's application account, updating Applicant Profile) must be submitted to e-snaps@hud.gov.