

COC REVIEW, SCORE, & RANKING PROCEDURES AND REALLOCATION PROCESS

Performance Scoring Policy

Applications for New and Renewal Projects will undergo a threshold review to ensure compliance with the HEARTH Act, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and the local CoC Request for Applications. Any new or renewal project not meeting the threshold requirement will not be further reviewed and will not be considered for funding. Renewal projects have previously passed Housing and Urban Development (HUD) threshold review and only in very exceptional cases of changed HUD policies or program changes will be at risk of not passing the threshold review.

The Homeless Trust makes available and accepts comment on the scoring standards for renewal projects on our website, and annually at CoC Planning meetings. The HUD CoC Project Rating and Ranking Tool, with feedback incorporated through the CoC Subcommittee, is included in the local NOFA solicitation.

Scoring of Renewal Projects is tabulated by Homeless Trust staff using the HUD CoC Project Rating and Ranking Tool amended with feedback from the CoC Subcommittee; the tool is largely based on prior year performance on HUD-approved System Performance Measures, project costs, project alignment with Housing First and the applicant's ability to spend the previous year's award.

Full Points:

Description of Rating Factor	Applies to	Factor/Goal	Max Points
Performance Measure			
Average days from project entry to move-in	RRH, PSH	30 days	20
Retention in or exits to Permanent Housing (PH)	RRH, PSH, TH	90%	25
Returns to Homelessness	RRH, PSH, TH	15%	15
New or increased earned income for stayers	RRH, PSH, TH	8%	2.5
New or increased non-employment income for stayers	RRH, PSH, TH	10%	2.5
New or increased earned income for leavers	RRH, PSH, TH	8%	2.5
New or increased non-employment income for leavers	RRH, PSH, TH	10%	2.5
Serve High Need Populations			
Assessment Score for Participants indicates PSH	RRH, PSH, TH	95%	20
Project Effectiveness			
Project is at or above the mean of all projects for costs	RRH, PSH, TH	Yes*	20
Percentage of referrals received through Coordinate Entry	RRH, PSH, TH	95%	10
Housing First/Low Barrier Implementation	RRH, PSH, TH	Yes	10
Other and Local Criteria			
CoC Monitoring Score	RRH, PSH, TH	Yes**	10
Restrictive Covenant	PSH	Yes	5

COC REVIEW, SCORE, & RANKING PROCEDURES AND REALLOCATION PROCESS

Partial Points:

Description of Rating Factor	Applies to	Factor/Goal	Max Points
Performance Measure			
Average days from project entry to move-in	RRH, PSH	180 days	15
Retention in or exits to Permanent Housing (PH)	RRH, PSH, TH	85%	20
Returns to Homelessness	RRH, PSH, TH	25%	10
New or increased earned income for stayers	RRH, PSH, TH	5%	1.5
New or increased non-employment income for stayers	RRH, PSH, TH	7%	1.5
New or increased earned income for leavers	RRH, PSH, TH	5%	1.5
New or increased non-employment income for leavers	RRH, PSH, TH	7%	1.5
Serve High Need Populations			
Assessment Score for Participants indicates PSH	RRH, PSH, TH	85%	15
Project Effectiveness			
Project is at or above the mean of all projects for costs	RRH, PSH, TH	Yes*	N/A
Percentage of referrals received through Coordinate Entry	RRH, PSH, TH	90%	5
Housing First/Low Barrier Implementation	RRH, PSH, TH	Commitment to Housing First in application	N/A
Other and Local Criteria			
CoC Monitoring Score	RRH, PSH, TH	Yes**	N/A

*Project did not lapse more than 10% of its funding for two consecutive years, or partial reallocation was provided as part of the local competition

**Project is not on Performance Improvement or Corrective Action Plan following monitoring

The Miami-Dade County Mayor appoints a selection committee of subject matter experts to review, rate and rank New Project applications, including Reallocation, Expansion and Bonus Project applications. After meeting the local RFA and program requirements, all New Projects are subject to the scoring outlined in the local RFA and new project scoring criteria, Attachment 20. The Selection Committee utilizes scoring to inform the selection of conditional sub-recipients. The committee has the discretion to select one or more applications for the amount available for New Projects. The committee also may give staff direction to negotiate with conditional applicants.

New and Renewal Projects will receive additional points based on the HUD Housing First Assessment Tool. Renewal Projects receive additional points based on the percentage of funds drawn in the previous year.

Ranking Policy

HUD requires Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects in two tiers. Tier 1 is defined by HUD in the NOFA as a percent of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) approved by HUD on the final HUD-approved Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). Tier 1 projects are traditionally protected from HUD cuts. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for bonus (including the Domestic Violence Bonus) as described in the HUD NOFA. Tier 2 projects must compete nationally for funding.

Renewal projects will be scored and ranked according to the HUD CoC Project Rating and Ranking Tool amended with feedback provided by the CoC Subcommittee, alignment with Housing First and prior year spending of grant funds, except for Coordinated Entry projects, First Time Renewals including Expansion projects, Change of Project Sponsor or Consolidated projects funded as part of the NOFA competition that have not been in operation for at least one year. These projects will be placed at the bottom of Tier 1 ahead of any Renewal Projects who ranked in Tier 2 and New Projects unless otherwise instructed in the USHUD CoC NOFA.

Projects that are deemed essential to the CoC but which would be at risk of losing funding if placed in Tier 2, will be ranked at the bottom of Tier 1. This includes: Joint component Transitional Housing with Rapid Re-Housing (joint TH and PH:RRH) targeting homeless youth and Support Services Only-Street Outreach projects providing Coordinated Entry.

Tier 2: Project components will be organized to best maximize the CoC Consolidated Application Overall Score.

Projects will be ranked as follows:

- Renewal Project applications ranked according to HUD CoC Project Rating and Ranking Tool (Tier 1 and 2)
- Support Services Only-Street Outreach projects providing Coordinated Entry (Tier 1)
- New Joint Component Transitional Housing with Rapid Rehousing dedicated to unaccompanied or parenting youth (Tier 1)
- Projects funded as part of the NOFA competition that have not been in operation for at least one year including Expansion, Change of Project Sponsor and Consolidation Projects (Tier 1)
- First Time Renewal Projects (Tier 1)
- New reallocation, Expansion and Bonus Project applications ranked according to New Project scores that emphasize the HUD priorities outlined in the NOFA (Tier 2)

The Planning Project is not ranked.

Re-Allocation Policy

Any funds reallocated as part of recapturing unspent funds, voluntary or involuntary reallocation will be made available for reallocation to create new projects during the local solicitation process.

Unspent Funds

Projects that are not fully expending or underspending their grant awards are subject to the reallocation process. Projects that have underspent their award by 10% may be reduced and those funds will go to reallocation for New Project(s). A one-year grace period may be extended by the Homeless Trust to providers who appeal proposed reallocation with a plan that demonstrates that the grant's expenditure will be improved in the current program year. Projects that have under-expended more than 10% of their award in two consecutive program years, without reallocation during the previous year, will have their funding reduced through reallocation in the CoC NOFA competition. The Homeless Trust will recapture 80% of unspent funds after making allowances for vacancies.

Voluntary Re-Allocation

As part of the local solicitation for inclusion in the HUD CoC collaborative application, providers are strongly encouraged to reallocate projects that are not spending their full award, underutilizing beds, underperforming and/or not in alignment with Housing First principles and practices. Such reallocated funds are pooled for reallocation to New Projects. The competitive process for New Projects provides bonus points as an incentive to providers offering to reallocate their entire project funds to create a New Project addressing CoC priorities.

Involuntary Re-Allocation (Unconditional v Conditional Renewal)

Projects with poor performance, not spending their full award, underutilizing beds, not in alignment with Housing First principles and practices, not serving the intended population or with significant, unresolved findings are subject to involuntary reallocation.

The Homeless Trust has established a threshold for unconditional renewal. Projects who score below 50 points of the weighted ranking score will be placed on corrective action and may be ranked in Tier 2. All projects submitting full renewal applications meeting threshold and scored above the threshold are approved for renewal without conditions.

Projects scoring below the threshold will be asked to develop a plan to address performance issues by next year's competition (Performance Improvement Plan), or to voluntarily give up award money to be reallocated to a New Project. If problems continue, projects may be reallocated in the following cycle. Applicants may appeal the decision and the appeal must be considered by the Homeless Trust Board.

Determination of any conditions to renewal will be made at least 45 days ahead of the NOFA due date. Any required Performance Improvement Plans or plan that demonstrates that the grant's expenditure will be improved as part of a reallocation appeal must be submitted for approval at least 30 days ahead of the NOFA due date, so that a final determination can be made as to whether the project goes forward for renewal. A final list of Renewal Projects will be presented to the CoC Board and posted on the Homeless Trust website.