

FY 2018 CoC NOFA Summary for Maine

This summary provides highlights of some important information regarding the FY 2018 CoC NOFA but **all potential applicants must read the full NOFA and all HUD and esnaps guidance for additional details.**

Funding Opportunity Title: Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Continuum of Care Program Competition

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6000-N-25

Primary CFDA Number: 14.267

Due Date for Applications: **Full CoC Application Due 9/18/2018.**
MCOE Project Applications Due 8/17/18.

A link to the full NOFA announcement and other related information is available via the link below:

[Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\) for the Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2018 Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Program Competition](#)

Applicants are required to complete and submit their applications in *e-snaps* via the [e-snaps page](#).

Training and Resources: CoC Program interim rule (24 CFR part 578 published July 31, 2012 at 77 CFR 45422), training materials, detailed instructions, and program resources are available via the HUD Exchange at www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/

The HUD Exchange Ask A Question (AAQ). HUD Exchange AAQ is accessible 24 hours each day at www.hudexchange.info/get-assistance/ for questions regarding regulatory or programmatic requirements, or access to/functionality of esnaps.

HUD Homeless Assistance Listserv: To join the HUD Listserv visit: www.hudexchange.info/maillinglist

For Further Information: Questions regarding CoC specific requirements should be directed to MaineHousing at cochelpdesk@mainehousing.org HUD or Programmatic questions may be directed to the regional HUD Field Offices in Manchester NH, and/or Boston MA: Lynn.Morrow@hud.gov, or Robert.D.Shumeyko@hud.gov (Please understand that HUD staff's ability to answer questions is severely restricted during the NOFA.)

General Section: The General Section to HUD's Fiscal Year Notice(s) of Funding Availability for Discretionary Programs is no longer a separate NOFA issued by HUD. Information previously found in the General Section, as it applies to the CoC Program, has been incorporated into this NOFA.

Available Funds: HUD is once again using the Tier 1, Tier 2 funding methodology. Tier 1 is equal to 94% of the CoC's FY 2018 Annual Renewal Demand (ARD – the amount required to fund all eligible Renewal Grants). For Maine, our 2018 ARD is \$12,306,167 making our Tier 1 amount \$11,567,797. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus a 6% ARD Bonus of \$738,370 for one or more eligible bonus projects that meet the project eligibility and threshold requirements established by HUD in Sections V.C.3.b and V.C.3.c of the NOFA. In addition, there is a DV Bonus of \$574,912 based on 10% of our Preliminary Pro-Rata Need, described in Section III.C.3.g of the NOFA, and Planning Grant funding of \$369,185 (only the Collaborative Applicant can apply for Planning Grant funds).

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants for the CoC Program are identified in Section V.A. of the NOFA.

Eligible Costs: 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63 identify the eligible costs for which funding may be requested under the CoC Program. HUD will reject any requests for ineligible costs.

Local Competition Deadlines: All Project Applications must be submitted to the CoC no later than 30 days before the CoC Application deadline of September 18, 2018. The CoC must notify all Project Applicants no later than 15 days before the FY 2018 CoC Application deadline whether their Project Applications will be accepted and ranked, rejected, or reduced as part of the CoC Consolidated Application submission.

For Maine: Projects must submit applications in esnaps no later than August 17, 2018.
They will be notified of the CoC's Scoring and Ranking results no later than August 31, 2018.

MCOB Request for Renewal Project Applications: Renewal Projects will be reviewed based primarily on their annual Monitoring results, as well as on any new information provided in their 2018 Renewal Applications. While the Application is not required to be submitted in esnaps until August 17, 2018, MCOB requests that each Renewal Applicant provide the following information to stibbitts@mainehousing.org for each eligible Renewal Project listed under their agency on the 2018 GIW ([CoC GIW CoC ME-500-2018](#)), no later than 4:00 PM on **Friday JULY 13, 2018**:

1. Does your agency intend to Renew the Grant(s)? If NO, will the funds be available for Reallocation?
2. Does your agency intend to Expand the Grant(s)? If yes, please see the New Project section, below.
3. Does your agency intend to Transition the Grant(s)? If yes, please see New Project section, below.
4. Does your agency intend to Consolidate 2 or more Grants? If yes, please indicate which Grants.

MCOB Request for New Project Applications, Expansion Applications, and Transition Applications:

New, Expansion, and Transition Project proposals will be reviewed based primarily on their 2018 Project Applications submitted via esnaps no later than August 17, 2018. However, in order to better plan and coordinate resources, MCOB requests that all agencies intending to submit a New, Expansion, or Transition Project Application provide the following information to stibbitts@mainehousing.org for each Project, no later than 4:00 PM on **Friday JULY 13, 2018**:

1. Description of the proposed new/expansion/transition activities, services, staffing or capacity.
2. Description of the community's need for the proposed activities.
3. Description of the target population to be served.
4. Description of your agency's understanding of or experience working with this population.
5. Description of how the project activities will assist clients to access mainstream resources, increase incomes, rapidly access safe, affordable housing that meets their needs, and maximize their ability to live independently.
6. If the proposal includes development of new housing, describe the type, size, number, and location(s) of the housing units.

CoC Program Implementation. The following list highlights important information and concepts, including new program types. This is not an exhaustive list of considerations or requirements. All applicants and CoC stakeholders should carefully review 24 CFR part 578, the FY 2018 CoC NOFA, and other HUD instructions and guidance for comprehensive information.

HUD's Homeless Policy Priorities

- ***Ending homelessness for all persons.***
- ***Create a systemic response to homelessness.***
- ***Strategically allocating and using resources.***
- ***Using a Housing First approach.***

1. **Performance-Based Decisions.** Consistent with the requirements of the FY 2018 Appropriations Act: CoCs cannot receive grants for new projects, other than through reallocation, unless the CoC competitively ranks projects based on how they improve system performance; HUD is increasing the share of the CoC score that is based on performance criteria; and HUD will prioritize funding for CoCs that have demonstrated the ability to reallocate resources to higher performing projects.

2. **Bonus Project.** A CoC is eligible to apply for up to 6 percent of its Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) and may apply for more than one bonus project, provided it has demonstrated the ability to reallocate lower performing projects to create new higher performing projects as outlined in Section VII.B.2.c of this NOFA. New projects created through the bonus process must meet the project eligibility and threshold requirements established by HUD in Sections V.C.3.b and V.C.3.c of this NOFA.

3. **Reallocation.** Reallocation is a process that CoCs use to shift funds in whole or part from existing eligible renewal projects to create one or more new projects without decreasing the CoC's ARD. New projects created through reallocation must meet the requirements set forth in Section II.B.1 of this NOFA

and the project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD in Sections V.C.3.b and V.C.3.c of this NOFA. CoCs may only reallocate eligible renewal projects that have previously been renewed under the CoC Program. To create a Transition Grant (see Section II.B.2 of this NOFA), the CoC must wholly eliminate one or more projects and use those funds to create the single, new transition grant.

4. **Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus.** The FY 2018 HUD Appropriations Act provides up to \$50 million for “rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing coordinated entry and for eligible activities that the Secretary determines are critical in order to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.” In the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition, a CoC may apply for up to 10 percent of its Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN) to create up to three DV Bonus projects.

A CoC may apply for one of each of the following types of projects as DV Bonus Projects:

- (1) Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) projects that must follow a housing first approach.
- (2) Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects as defined in Section II.C.3.m of this NOFA that must follow a housing first approach.
- (3) SSO Projects for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC’s coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (e.g., to implement policies and procedures that are trauma-informed, client-centered or to better coordinate referrals between the CoC’s coordinated entry and the victim service providers coordinated entry system where they are different).

Regardless of the type of project the CoC applies for, the grant term must be 1-year.

CoCs are required to rank all DV Bonus projects on the New Project Listing of the CoC Priority Listing with a unique rank number. If a project application designated as DV Bonus is conditionally selected by HUD with DV Bonus funds, HUD will remove the ranked DV Bonus project from the New Project Listing and all other project applications ranked below the DV Bonus project will slide up one rank position (e.g., if the conditionally selected DV Bonus project is ranked #5, HUD will remove the DV Bonus project and each project below #5 will move up one ranked position). If the DV Bonus project application is not conditionally selected with DV Bonus funds, the project application will remain in its ranked position and will be considered for funding as a bonus project with available CoC Program funds provided the CoC meets the requirements of Section II.B.1. of this NOFA.

A CoC can only be awarded one DV Bonus project application for each project type. If a CoC submits more than one project application for a project type, HUD will only consider the highest ranked project that passes eligibility and quality threshold review for the DV Bonus; e.g., if a CoC submits 2 PH-RRH project applications under the DV Bonus, HUD will consider the highest ranked PH-RRH project application that passed eligibility and quality threshold for the DV Bonus and the lowest ranked PH-RRH project will be considered under the regular bonus project criteria (see Section III.C.3.c of this NOFA).

A CoC may apply to expand an existing renewal project in accordance with Section III.C.3.i of this NOFA, that is not dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that meet the definition of homeless in paragraph (4) of 24 CFR 578.3 to dedicate additional units, beds, persons served, or services provided to existing program participants to this population.

5. **Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Project.** The Joint TH and PH-RRH component project combines two existing program components—transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing—in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. HUD will require the recipient to adopt a Housing First approach (see Section II.A.4 of this NOFA) across the entire project and program participants may only receive up to 24-months of total assistance. For more information about Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects, see Section V.C.3 of this NOFA for additional information.

When a program participant is enrolled in a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project, the recipient or subrecipient 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 participants. A program participant may choose to receive only the transitional housing unit, or the assistance provided through the PH-RRH component, but the recipient or subrecipient must make both types of assistance available. Additionally, if CoC Program funds are not being requested for both TH and PH-RRH units, the project application must still describe the number of TH and PH-RRH units that will be utilized by the project, if selected for conditional award, and provide details in the project description of how TH and PH-RRH assistance will be provided.

6. **Transition Grants.** See Section III.C.3.r & q of the NOFA for information on the transition grant concept. HUD is implementing this concept in the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition as follows: No more than 50 percent of each transition grant may be used for costs of eligible activities of the program component being eliminated; All remaining funds awarded must be used for eligible activities awarded under the new component for the project. Transition grants conditionally awarded in the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition will have one year to fully transition from the original component to the new component and this will take place during the transition grants normal operating year. By the end of the FY 2018 operating year, the transition grant must be operating under the new component and will be eligible to apply for renewal in the next CoC Program Competition under the component to which it transitioned. To be eligible to receive a transition grant, the renewal project applicant must have the consent of its Continuum of Care.

For a new project to be considered a transition grant, the applicant for the new project must be the same recipient for the eligible renewal grant(s) being eliminated, and the applicant must provide the grant number(s) of the projects being eliminated to create the new project and attach a copy of the most recently awarded project application (e.g., if the project was last funded in the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition, a copy of the FY 2017 CoC Program Competition project application must be attached to the project application). If HUD determines that a new project that applied to be a transition grant does not qualify to be a transition grant, but meets all other new project requirements, then HUD may award the project as a new project that is not a transition grant. In these instances, the recipient will not be permitted to expend any FY 2018 funds on activities not included in the new project application.

7. **Expansion Project.** The process by which a renewal project applicant submits a new project application to expand its current operations by adding units, beds, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or in the case of HMIS, increase the current HMIS grant activities within the CoC's geographic area. There are two types of expansion:

Expanding CoC Program Projects. Expansion in which a project applicant submits a new project application to expand the current operations of an eligible renewal project for which it is the recipient by adding additional CoC Program funds. Under this type of expansion, for the new expansion project to be selected for conditional award the renewal project application must also be selected for conditional award.

Expanding a non-CoC Program funded project. Expansion in which a project applicant submits a new project application that requests CoC Program funds to add to a current homeless project that is funded from sources other than CoC Program funds. However, as stated in Section 426 of the Act, project applicants are prohibited from using CoC Program funds to replace state and local funds.

8. **Consolidated Project.** New in FY 2018, eligible renewal project applicants will have the ability to consolidate two or more eligible renewal projects (but no more than four projects) into one project application during the application process. To apply for a consolidated grant, applicants must submit separate renewal project applications for each of the grants that are proposed to be consolidated, and an application for the new consolidated grant with the combined budget and information of all grants proposed for consolidation. Project applications for the grants that are proposed to be consolidated will be ranked, and if all those grants are selected, HUD will award the single consolidated grant. If one of the grants proposed to be consolidated is found to be ineligible for consolidation or is not selected, HUD will award all grants that are eligible for renewal and selected as separate grants. See Sections II.B.4, V.B.2.b.(2) and Section V.B.3.a.(7) of this NOFA for additional requirements.