

Before Starting the Special CoC Application

You must submit both of the following parts in order for us to consider your Special NOFO Consolidated Application complete:

1. the CoC Application, and
2. the CoC Priority Listing.

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The Special NOFO Continuum of Care (CoC) Application Detailed Instructions for Collaborative Applicants which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

CoC Approval is Required before You Submit Your CoC's Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application

- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on behalf of your CoC.
- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions

Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments

Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You must upload the [Specific Attachment Name] attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.

- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with—if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.
- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1A-1. CoC Name and Number: VA-521 - Virginia Balance of State CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Commonwealth of Virginia-Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Commonwealth VA subgrant to Homeward

1A-5.	New Projects	
	Complete the chart below by indicating which funding opportunity(ies) your CoC applying for projects under. A CoC may apply for funding under both set asides; however, projects funded through the rural set aside may only be used in rural areas, as defined in the Special NOFO.	
1.	Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside	Yes
2.	Rural Homelessness Set Aside	Yes

1B. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1B-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for project application submission for your CoC's local competition.	08/26/2022

1B-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.a.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected new project applications during your CoC's local competition:	
	1. Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
	2. At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
	3. At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	Yes

1B-3.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	1. Did your CoC reject or reduce any project application(s)?	Yes
	2. Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	Yes
	3. If you selected yes, for element 1 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	10/05/2022

1B-3a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	09/19/2022
1B-4.	Web Posting of the CoC-Approved Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC posted its Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on the CoC’s website or affiliate’s website–which included: 1. the CoC Application, and 2. Priority Listings.	10/11/2022

2A. System Performance

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2A-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless—Risk Factors.	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.b.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC determined which risk factors your CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;	
2.	how your CoC addresses individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and	
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time or to end homelessness for individuals and families.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC reviews both the quantitative data provided from emergency shelters as well as the qualitative data provided from the homeless providers in the community to determine the characteristics of individuals who experience homelessness. Initially, the CoC identified 21 characteristics that may make a household more vulnerable to homelessness. Of these 21, four were identified that may yield the greatest vulnerabilities: unaccompanied youth under 18, a single adult with 4+ children, a head of household who has experienced homelessness in the past 3 years, and household income below 15% AMI. The LPGs described the following risk factors that have contributed to the vulnerabilities that influence an individual’s experience of homelessness: the lack of affordable housing and increase of households experiencing unemployment due to the pandemic.
2. The CoC continues to leverage prevention funds to divert households from homelessness as opposed to eviction prevention. This way, limited prevention resources target those most likely to become homeless. Additionally the CoC plans to support individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless through follow up from CE systems. The Uniformed Coordinated Entry and Assessment committee is dedicated to formalizing the technical assistance that will be available to access points to ensure they are supporting individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless. The CoC PM also works closely with the ASNH team at DHCD to discuss opportunities to develop capital within the CoC geographic area. The CoC is working towards strengthening relationships with their workforce development providers to ensure opportunities for employment are made available to those experiencing homelessness.
3. Each of the 12 LPGs has one org that oversees prevention services. The CoC PM works with each LPG to ensure they are reviewing data and using state prevention funds in accordance with CoC system level procedures. Relationships with workforce development providers happen on both the LPG and CoC level. The CoC PM is responsible for collaboration with the ASNH team to raise capital for affordable housing in the CoC communities.

2A-2.	Length of Time Homeless–Strategy to Reduce. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.c.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. your CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;	
	2. how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and	
	3. provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. As the pandemic continues to persist in communities, the CoC identified that it was necessary to update the CE prioritization process. By reviewing and updating the CE prioritization process, the hope is to create additional mechanisms to identify individuals experiencing homelessness for an extended length of time. Additionally, the CoC will continue to divert households from homelessness by mediating with landlords, family and friends, or identifying alternative mainstream services. If diversion is not possible, emergency shelters have received training on low-barrier procedures. This helps to ensure that households with the greatest needs are able to access shelter and then obtain the housing resources needed.

2. The CoC utilizes a tool provided from the NAEH that assists emergency shelters in evaluating shelter inflow, outflow and length of stay. The CoC HMIS administrator created a report for this tool which helps identify those households staying the longest and enables shelters to evaluate the following on a monthly basis: total unique households served; total households entering shelter; total households exiting shelter; total household exiting to a permanent destination; average length of shelter stays for all households exiting to any destination; the average length of shelter stays in days for all households exiting to a permanent destination; and the average length of shelter stays for all stayer households. Communities also utilize weekly case conferencing as a method of identifying individuals and households with the longest lengths of time homeless.

3. The CoC program manager at DHCD works with each LPG to ensure they are reviewing data and using state prevention funds in accordance with the CoC system level procedures. The Uniformed/CE and assessment committee, comprised of representatives from the LPGs, will be responsible for overseeing the updates in the CE prioritization process.

2A-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention. (All Applicants)	
Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.d.		
Describe in the field below how your CoC will increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in:		
1.	emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and	
2.	permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC will continue to implement housing focused case management in emergency shelter, rapid exits to housing, and access to RRH as methods to ensure individuals exit to a permanent housing destination. Emergency shelters in the CoC implement the following strategies to reduce barriers to permanent housing: housing first approach, housing focused services, rapid exits from shelter and evaluation of program performance to identify areas of improvement. Additional outreach regarding homeless services is being provided to landlords and is supported through ESG-CV funding deployed in the LPG communities.
2. Housing stabilization case management is provided through homeless service providers within the CoCs, which focuses on supporting the household in maintaining their permanent housing placement. This case management works to stabilize a household in the following ways: connection to mainstream resources, employment opportunities, connection to education services, etc. LPGs have formed Landlord Committees with the goal of bringing together property owners and housing specialists/counselors from homeless service organizations across the CoC. These committees seek to engage property owners in conversations to determine how homeless service providers can best meet property owner needs while increasing their acceptance of households of families with high barriers into permanent housing. These practices are effective manners of improving the CoC's retention in housing as the CoC maintains a 97% retention of households in permanent housing between FY 20 and FY 21.

2A-4.	Returns to Homelessness—CoC's Strategy to Reduce Rate. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.e.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. how your CoC identifies individuals and families who return to homelessness;	
	2. your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and	
	3. provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC utilizes HMIS data collected from CE, emergency shelter, and permanent housing projects to analyze individuals and households entering and re-entering the homeless system. Each LPG manages a CE project in HMIS, which has helped identify those who are re-entering the crisis response system more timely. Over the past year, the CoC has also taken steps to evaluate this data further to understand the racial makeup of individuals who are re-entering the homelessness system on both the CoC and LPG level.
2. As per the CoC system level procedures, the CoC is targeting prevention funds to serve those most likely to become homeless and not on eviction prevention. The CoC currently prioritizes those who have previously been homeless as well as those with high barriers to obtaining housing (large households, youth, multiple episodes of homelessness, income under 15% AMI). By targeting those with previous episodes of homelessness, LPGs are able to prevent re-entries into homelessness. The CoC plans to leverage the TA provided from CI to improve the CoC’s relationships with culturally specific CBOs in LPGs with high rates of individuals returning to homelessness who identify as people of color. It is evident that these strategies are effective as the CoC maintains a 96% retention rate of individuals remaining housed within the first 12 months of their placement in permanent housing based on the FY 21 system performance measure report.
3. The CoC lead agency, DHCD, Program Manager oversees system level data and facilitates the Uniform/CE and Assessment committee, which addresses system processes such as targeting and prioritizing. The Racial Equity ad hoc committee is responsible for assessing the racial data and formalizing the strategic plan to reduce the rate of returns among communities of color.

2A-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase employment cash sources;	
	2. how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income; and	
	3. provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to increase income from employment.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Many LPGs across the CoC have internal workforce development programs. Homeless service staff in the LPGs meet regularly with workforce development staff to address the needs of job seekers (who have experienced homelessness or unstable housing) to secure meaningful employment, competitive wages, and career advancement. Additionally, the CoC is working in partnership with DMAS to develop a cross-systems approach to address the employment needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. DMAS is designing a benefit program for Medicaid eligible individuals to access supportive services for both housing and employment.
2. The CoC partners with mainstream employment organizations to advertise for available positions, provide opportunities for apprenticeships and to identify education opportunities for individuals and families to increase their cash income. These partners also provide input in the planning efforts to increase cash income within the LPGs. Mainstream partners aiding the CoC in these efforts include DMAS, Virginia Employment Commission, Dept. of Aging and Rehabilitative Services, Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, Dept. of Social Services, Community Action Agencies, and Dept. of Juvenile Justice.
3. The CoC lead agency, DHCD, oversees system level partnerships and aids LPGs in planning discussions. These partnerships are established at the local level and are replicated across the CoC.

	2A-5a. Increasing Non-employment Cash Income—Strategy. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase non-employment cash income;	
	2. your CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash sources; and	
	3. provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Along with the partnership created to increase employment income, the CoC is working on a strategy to increase access to non-employment income. To improve access, the CoC ensures case managers work to reduce barriers for clients by providing transportation and educating clients regarding the eligibility criteria of the benefits. LPGs have SOAR trained staff who work to ensure those eligible for disability benefits are able to have applications approved.
2. The CoC collaborates with other state agencies through this partnership to address barriers that might impact an individual's access to non-employment cash sources. Discussions with other state agencies focus on prioritizing access in the following areas: public transportation, funding for outreach, co-locating facilities, providing multilingual services, and improving communications between homeless service providers and benefit workers. Additionally, LPGs have committees that work to implement improved policies and guidance to ensure those who are in need and qualify receive their benefits. LPGs maintain relationships with organizations responsible for supporting access to non-employment cash benefits, such as SOAR providers, as a part of their local governing committees.
3. The CoC PM at DHCD oversees system level partnerships and supports LPGs in connecting with organizations on the local level to increase access to non-employment cash income.

2B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

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2B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Sections VII.B.3.a.(1)	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:	
	1. select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted—including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC’s coordinated entry system; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC’s geographic area:	

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing of CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC’s Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	Agencies serving survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	CoC-Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Disability Advocates	Yes	No	Yes
7.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No	No
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Hospital(s)	Yes	No	Yes
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	No	No	No
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	No	Yes
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	No	No	Yes
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	No	No	No
16.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	No	Yes
18.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

20.	Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	Non-CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	No	Yes
22.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	No	No	No
24.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	No	Yes
32.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)			
33.				
34.				

By selecting "other" you must identify what "other" is.

2B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(2), V.B.3.g.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	communicated the invitation process annually to solicit new members to join the CoC;
2.	ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats;
3.	conducted outreach to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join your CoC; and
4.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, other People of Color, persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The Virginia Balance of State (VA BOS) CoC is comprised of 12 regionalized local planning groups (LPG) and five committees (cmte) that are open to the public. Solicitation for new CoC members is conducted at the LPG level through postings on provider websites and in-person recruitment events. LPGs membership cmtes conduct regular outreach to local and regional govt. entities, faith communities, private businesses, etc. The CoC lead agency, the Virginia Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), also leverages relationships with other state agencies to extend invitations to join the CoC. Additionally, the CoC facilitates bi-monthly virtual forums, which are open to the public, to create transparent communication with partners and any member of the public who is interested in learning more about the VA BOS.
2. All information is communicated via the DHCD website, LPGs websites, emails, and newsletter postings. CoC members will also meet one-on-one with stakeholders, develop and distribute brochures, and hold in-person trainings to stakeholders to share information on the LPG efforts to create a crisis response system. Additionally, the CoC has recorded virtual meetings, which providers can refer back to at any point. During monthly meetings, the CoC Program Manager (PM) reports information from the CoC to leadership of the Virginia Dept. of Aging and Rehabilitation Services.
3. The main governing board of the CoC reserves at least one seat for individuals with lived expertise. Recruitment for representation of individuals with lived expertise is announced via the LPG representative sitting on the CoC Steering Committee. The LPG representative will disseminate this information to their partners, via newsletter, announcements during in person meetings, or emails. Additionally, CoC lead agency staff will meet with individuals with lived experience to provide information regarding the CoC and initiatives.
4. CoC LPGs maintain partnerships with culturally specific organizations to aid in their efforts to address equity in their communities. Additionally, in FY 21 DHCD contracted with Collective InCite, LLC (CI) to provide a Racial Equity and Social Justice training to all of the communities that comprise the CoC. CI provided technical assistance (TA) to each of the LPGs to enhance partnerships with community based organizations (CBO) serving culturally specific communities. The CoC is convening a subcmte that is responsible for developing strategies to outreach CBOs.

2B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(3)	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information; and
3.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Each LPG has a governing board and cmtes that are public and accessible to stakeholders. CoC membership includes a broad array of stakeholders with knowledge and interest in preventing and ending homelessness. Stakeholders include local govt. officials, planning district commissions (PDC), private funders, advocates including the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA), school divisions, police departments, faith based communities, PHAs, VA hospitals, CSBs (mental health agencies), homeless service providers, CAP agencies, state dept. of veteran services, and dept. of behavior health and developmental services. Additionally, the CoC facilitates public bi-monthly virtual forums to elicit feedback and answer questions from community partners and key stakeholders around preventing and ending homelessness.
2. The CoC provides and solicits information in multiple ways. Each LPG has a board and cmtes designed to address local homeless needs. Information flows back and forth through this structure via LPG representation on the CoC steering cmtte (the main CoC governing board), which meets bi-monthly. During the months that the steering committee does not meet, community partners have the option to engage in more discussions regarding homelessness in their communities via the CoC's bi-monthly virtual forums. Finally, the CoC PM participates in virtual sessions held with partners from across the state to gather input from all LPGs in the CoC.
3. All information gathered during CoC meetings, virtual forums, or input sessions are considered and used to improve the CoC. State appropriations, ESG, and CoC funding have been coordinated to ensure each LPG has a homeless crisis response system ensuring all communities in the geographic area have access to homeless services. Feedback from meetings also inform policy and procedural change that is presented to the steering committee for a vote and formal implementation.

2B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(4)	

Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:	
1.	that your CoC's local competition was open and accepting project applications;
2.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;
3.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications;
4.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and
5.	how your CoC effectively communicated with individuals with disabilities, including making information accessible in electronic formats.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC lead agency disseminated information regarding the funding opportunity to partners through their LPG representative on the CoC steering cmte. On 6/28/2022, CoC staff held a public meeting open to all CoC partners regardless of funding. CoC staff discussed the funding opportunity and reviewed the CoC process to submit applications. On 7/26/2022, CoC staff released the application for the local competition for partners.
2. CoC staff encouraged proposals for new projects from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding during the 06/28/2022 meeting. On 7/26/2022, the CoC application documents were emailed to LPG lead agencies and the CoC steering cmte who then shared it with stakeholders. The application was then published on the CoC website. CoC staff met with partners to discuss eligible activities, project design, and coordination with local processes.
3. The CA provided instructions on the project application submission during the initial communication of the local competition. Instructions are included on the CoC application timeline that is provided to CoC Steering Cmte members to share with their community partners and is published on the CoC website. On 8/11/2022, the CA facilitated a recorded information session which outlined the application process and submission. LPG partners were provided with a recording of the session to refer back to during their completion of the CoC application.
4. CoC staff communicate the eligibility criteria with the CoC steering cmte and community partners. Agencies that are active participants in their LPG are eligible to apply for new funding. The CA conducts an initial eligibility assessment of submitted applications. Projects are selected according to the CoC's ranking process outlined in the policies and procedures, which are published on the CoC website. Applicants requesting funding for new projects are required to submit all documents to DHCD. Once the projects are selected for submission to HUD, project applicants are notified and the project listing is posted on the CoC website. The steering cmte distributes this information out to CoC stakeholders.
5. Information is communicated on the DHCD website and via emails, PDFs, and other accessible formats are published. Communication regarding the local competition is provided during 1:1 virtual meetings with stakeholders in the CoC communities. The CoC also recorded meetings, which are available for providers to refer to at any point.

2C. Coordination / Engagement—with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations

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2C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	
	In the chart below:	
	1. select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC’s coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC’s geographic area.	

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with Planning or Operations of Projects
1.	Funding Collaboratives	Yes
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	No
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	Yes
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Nonexistent
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	
18.		

2C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG funds;
2.	participated in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients;
3.	provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area; and
4.	provided information to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions to address homelessness within your CoC's geographic area so it could be addressed in Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. DHCD is the state administrator (admin) of ESG for the CoC. Each of the 12 LPGs submit community-based applications for ESG, HOPWA, and state funding through the Virginia Homeless and Special Needs Housing (HSNH) funding. Funded projects must coordinate services with the CoC, use HMIS, participate in CE, adhere to housing first, CoC service standards, and report outcomes at a program and system level. ESG-CV funding follows a similar process for planning and allocation. Each of the 12 LPGs submit a community-based funding request to DHCD. The request is based on the number of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) count, data collected from the 2022 Housing Inventory Count (HIC), and HMIS.
2. As both the CoC CA and the state admin of ESG funding, DHCD works to ensure all funds are used to meet the goal of ending homelessness. To measure the effectiveness of ESG funding, DHCD requires the following: Quarterly calls that address spending, TA needs, and the use of data to address system or client needs; Bi-annual progress reports that include client demographics, project utilization, and exit destination; and System outcomes reports (DV, HMIS, and Non-HMIS projects) that include demographics, length of time homeless, PIT count, length of stay, and exit destinations.
3. As the ESG admin, DHCD creates the Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) for the CoC. The CoC provides PIT count and HIC data to DHCD to inform the Con Plan. An example of a use of this data, multiple LPGs identified having a higher than normal PIT count in 2021. This was the impetus of staff resources being deployed to this community.
4. The CoC program manager is part of the HSNH team that establishes system performance measures and collects project outcomes used for the consolidated plan development and CAPER reporting. Each year when DHCD updates the state's Consolidated Plan, statewide input sessions are held to coordinate with each independent Con Plan jurisdiction.

2C-3.	Discharge Planning Coordination. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.c.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the systems of care listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs.		
1.	Foster Care	Yes

2.	Health Care	Yes
3.	Mental Health Care	Yes
4.	Correctional Facilities	Yes

2C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. (All Applicants)
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:

1.	Youth Education Provider	Yes
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	Yes
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	Yes
4.	School Districts	Yes

2C-4a.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts–Formal Partnerships. (All Applicants)
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC collaborates with the entities checked in Question 2C-4; and
2.	the formal partnerships your CoC has with the entities checked in Question 2C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC collaborates with education providers on both the state and local level, DHCD collaborates with SEAs to improve the coordination between housing and education systems. The McKinney Vento SEA in Virginia, Project HOPE, deploys liaisons within LPG school systems to assist districts in connecting students experiencing homelessness with housing resources. Representatives from Project HOPE have played a crucial role in the implementation of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program in the VA BOS. Most recently, representatives from Project HOPE participated in an in-person session of the VA BOS YHDP implementation to discuss the operations of the projects that will be implemented by homeless services providers. A work group specifically dedicated to the coordination of YHDP projects and education services will be implemented in the coming months. Additionally, through the LPG representatives on the steering committee, the CoC elicits and adopts feedback received from education partners. LPGs also coordinate with school districts to ensure that students experiencing homelessness are able to access education services. An example of this collaboration occurred when LPG providers coordinated with non congregate shelter(NCS) facilities and school districts to ensure that students were able to access their virtual classes. All partnerships with other education partners are maintained on the local level through LPG providers through memoranda of understanding(MOU).

2. CoC LPGs have partnerships with Head Start, Early HeadStart, Healthy Start, Birth to 3 programs, United Way, and community colleges and universities at the local level. These collaborations help ensure families and children receive assistance or are able to access opportunities through MOUs or Cooperative Agreements. The CoC serves on the Governor’s Children’s Cabinet that is dedicated to the education, health, safety, and welfare of children and youth, and on the Virginia Project HOPE advisory board. This board is responsible for the coordination of services to ensure the enrollment, attendance and the school success of children and youth experiencing homelessness. As per the charter of the CoC, there is a seat reserved for an individual representing the education system which is open to school districts. CoC plans to improve this relationship through the implementation of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program.

2C-4b.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC adopted to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC adopted the following procedures for services offered to families: case managers verbally and in writing must notify parents of their child's rights to access and receive educational services that include enrolling in school without required documentation, remaining in their home school with transportation provided, and free lunch. In addition to the CoC written procedures for services, LPGs are required to adopt procedures to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services.

2C-5.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Training of Project Staff. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains project staff annually on the following mainstream resources available for program participants within your CoC's geographic area:

	Mainstream Resource	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
4.	Substance Abuse Programs	Yes
5.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
6.	Other	

You must select a response for elements 1 through 6 in question 2C-5.

2C-5a.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Collaboration with Project Staff Regarding Healthcare Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	systemically provides up-to-date information on mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations to assist program participants with enrolling in health insurance;
3.	provides assistance to project staff with the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits; and
4.	works with projects to promote SOAR certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC collaborates with state agencies to deliver trainings to LPG partners around mainstream resources. VA has one application, CommonHelp, where a household can apply for all benefits (assistance with food, childcare, heating/cooling bills, healthcare and cash assistance). LPG staff are knowledgeable of this resource and the application process. LPG providers also collaborate directly with the local offices that administer mainstream resources regarding status and changes in clients' benefits.
2. LPG communities include healthcare organizations, including hospitals, private clinics and managed care organizations (MCOs), as a part of their membership who regularly collaborate to assist program participants in receiving healthcare services. Health care organizations regularly report updates on eligibility, referral processes, timelines, new services or contacts, and other vital information regarding healthcare services. If there are any changes with services, a training is available to LPG partners around resource updates. Additionally, LPG case managers are responsible for connecting with staff at healthcare organizations to ensure that clients have access to healthcare and mental health treatment. If there are challenges in accessing services, LPG partners address the barriers between the community partners.
3. LPG staff work with mainstream resource providers and clients to ensure they are accessing all available benefits that will contribute to their housing stability. For example, as part of the Medicaid expansion, Cover Virginia (coverva.org) provides information on benefits and other helpful information (in multiple languages). This resource guides clients and LPG service providers around the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits.
4. DHCD staff work with state agencies to ensure that SOAR training is available to all CoC partners. If there is a gap in access to SOAR resources, the CoC staff at DHCD will work with both state agency partners as well as local partners to ensure that gaps are addressed and to reduce any additional barriers that arise that could prevent future access to resources. Additionally, LPGs maintain relationships with local SOAR providers and have trained staff who work to ensure those eligible for disability benefits are able to have applications approved.

3A. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. (Rural Set Aside Only). Special NOFO Section VII.A.	
If the answer to the question below is yes, you must upload the CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.		
Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project(s) under the Rural Set Aside for housing rehabilitation or new construction costs?		Yes

3B. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	

Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No
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3B-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	
	You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below:	
	1. how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and	
	2. how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

4A. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

Please read the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:	
1.	You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete.
2.	You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes'
3.	We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported—please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images and reduces file size. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print Option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube.
4.	Attachments must match the questions they are associated with.
5.	Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process.
6.	If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either. - We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time). - We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment.
7.	Open attachments once uploaded to ensure they are the correct attachment for the required Document Type.

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1B-1. Local Competition Announcement	Yes		
1B-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes		
1B-3. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes		
1B-3a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes		
1B-4. Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application	Yes		
3A-1. CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs	No		
3B-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
P-1. Leveraging Housing Commitment	No		
P-1a. PHA Commitment	No		
P-3. Healthcare Leveraging Commitment	No		
P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter	No		
Plan. CoC Plan	Yes		

Attachment Details

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Submission Summary

Ensure that the Special NOFO Project Priority List is complete prior to submitting.

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/09/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/09/2022
2A. System Performance	10/09/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/09/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/09/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	10/09/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required