



COC COMPETITION SCORING TOOL – NEW PROJECTS

NEW PROJECT SCORING TOOL OVERVIEW

This scoring tool is used by the Review & Rank Panel to evaluate new project applications, that is applications for projects that did not receive CoC funding in the previous competition year. The tool includes threshold criteria that project applicants must meet in order to be eligible for consideration; these criteria are required but not scored. Applications that do not meet the minimum threshold requirements will not advance in the competition process. The tool also includes scoring criteria which will be used to determine each project's final application score and ranking.

SCORING CRITERIA

This scoring tool will be used for the following new project types per the 2026 CoC NOFO and Contra Costa CoC approved priorities:

1. New Transitional Housing Projects – 100 points
2. New Supportive Services Only Projects – 100 points
3. New Street Outreach Projects – 100 points



THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Threshold criteria are required but not scored. Projects that receive a “No” on any of threshold criteria will be deemed ineligible for the competition process.

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1. **Project Eligibility:** The applicant is eligible to receive CoC funding (i.e., valid applicant type, SAM registered, has a Unique Entity Identifier number). The project type is eligible for funding under the CoC NOFO and local CoC’s competition rules for this competition year. The project proposes to start by HUD’s statutory deadlines.
2. **Coordinated Entry Participation:** Project will participate in coordinated entry to the extent possible for this project type.
3. **HMIS Participation:** Project will enter data for all CoC-funded beds into the Contra Costa CoC Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), unless it is serving survivors of domestic violence, in which case it will enter data into a comparable database.
4. **Participant Eligibility:** The project will only accept participants that can be documented as eligible for this project’s program type based on their housing and disability status.
5. **Budget:** The program’s budget is sufficiently detailed, includes eligible costs, shows CoC and non-CoC funding sources for the project, and will have match funding that adds up to at least 25% of the federal funding requested.
6. **Compliance with 2026 HUD CoC NOFO requirements:**
 - a. Project applicant complies with the Fair Housing Act and all relevant state and/or local fair housing laws.
 - b. Project application complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Violence Against Women Act or substantially equivalent state or local laws.
 - c. Project will affirmatively certify that project applicants will not engage in illegal racial discrimination. This is consistent the requirements of 2 CFR 200.300(a).
 - d. Project will affirmatively certify that project applicants will not operate drug injection sites or "safe consumption sites" in violation of 21 U.S.C. 856(a)(1), knowingly permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control in violation of 21 U.S.C. 856(a)(2), or knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia in violation of 21 U.S.C. 863. This is consistent the requirements of 2 CFR 200.300(a).
 - i. This certification is not a requirement that program participants must be sober in order to receive assistance, participate in treatment in order to receive assistance, or be evicted or exited from assistance for a first-time violation of a drug-related program policy or lease requirement.



SCORING CRITERIA

All the scoring factors in this tool measure projects' contribution to improving Contra Costa CoC's System Performance by strengthening the overall system of care. Please note that each of the eligible new project types in the **2026** CoC NOFO have their own scoring criteria below:

1. **Transitional Housing**
2. **Supportive Services Only**
3. **Street Outreach**

1. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (100 POINTS TOTAL)

FACTOR 1.A. AGENCY EXPERIENCE – 25 POINTS

Applicant can receive up to 25 points total for the following:

- 5 points - Applicant has prior experience operating transitional housing or other projects that have successfully helped **at least 50% of participants exit homelessness within 24 months.**
- 5 points - The applicant, members or the applicant's Board, or members of the applicant's leadership team successfully handled at least one other federal grant or other major grant of this size and complexity, either in or out of the CoC. At least 90% of the funds were spent from such grants.
- 5 points - Applicant can receive 5 points if they currently participate in HMIS or an alternative database for domestic violence projects, within this CoC or another CoC. If the applicant does not actively participate in HMIS or an alternative database for domestic violence projects, the applicant can receive 2.5 points by demonstrating the capacity to collect and manage data.
- 5 points - Applicant receives 5 points if they do not have any outstanding HUD findings and/or financial audit findings.
- 5 points – Applicant receives 5 points if HUD or any other federal, state, or local agency has not deobligated any of the applicant's grant funds in the past three operating years.

FACTOR 1.B. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES – 20 POINTS

- 4 points - Applicant demonstrates how the project will provide and/or partner with other organizations to provide eligible supportive services that are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing (i.e., case management, behavioral healthcare, employment training, etc.).
- 4 points - Applicant adequately describes the supportive services (e.g. case management, employment training, substance use treatment, etc.) in line with 24 CFR 578.75(h) that will be offered to program participants.
- 4 points – Applicant adequately describes how the service needs or program participants will be assessed. Service plans for program participants should include the services to be provided, when



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and how often services will be provided, by whom all services will be provided, program participant goals, strategies for achieving those goals, and target dates for achievements focused on improved health and wellness, housing stability, and increased employment income.

- **3 points** – Project will require participation in supportive services tailored to participant needs and provide “direct language from a supportive service agreement (contract, occupancy agreement, lease, or equivalent).”
- **3 points** – The project will provide substance use treatment.
- **2 points** – Project will provide substance treatment on-site and has provided an agreement or letter of commitment that provides evidence for these services, including who is eligible.

FACTOR 1.C. EMPLOYMENT INCOME – 20 POINTS

- Applicant can receive up to 20 points for demonstrating they have previously operated or currently operates a transitional housing project or another homelessness project where at least 50% of participants exit with employment income as reflected in HMIS or another data system used by the applicant.
- If the applicant does not have this track record, the applicant can receive up to 15 points for describing a plan for at least 50% of participants to exit with employment income.

FACTOR 1.D. MAINSTREAM RESOURCES – 10 POINTS

- Applicant can receive up to 10 points if the project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.

FACTOR 1.E. 20 HOURS OF CUSTOMIZED SERVICES – 10 POINTS

Applicant has demonstrated that it will provide individualized services for participants that will result in at least **20 hours per week**.

- The 20 hours per week of engagement in services, activities, or employment is for all program participants, except for participants over age 62 or who is an individual with handicaps as defined in 24 CFR 8.3 or with a developmental disability as defined under 24 CFR 578.3.
- Examples of services or activities include case management, counseling, treatment, volunteering, work therapy, education, job training, community-building activities, etc.
- Employment may contribute to the 20 hours per week of engagement.
- Written evidence may be required for full points but the descriptions provided to HUD for this factor will not constitute a reporting or documentation requirement.

FACTOR 1.F. COST PER HOUSEHOLD – 10 POINTS



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- The average cost per household served for the project is reasonable and consistent with 2 CFR 200.404.

FACTOR 1.G. ALIGNMENT WITH HUD AND COC NOFO – 5 POINTS

Applicant can receive up to 10 points for aligning with current HUD and NOFO priorities:

- At least 50% of the project's activities will be located [Opportunity Zone](#). To receive points for this, projects must submit a signed HUD form 2996 certifying the project is in an Opportunity Zone by the local competition deadline.

2. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ONLY (SSO) STANDALONE (100 POINTS TOTAL)

FACTOR 2.A. AGENCY EXPERIENCE – 25 POINTS

Applicant can receive up to 25 points total for the following:

- 5 points - Applicant has prior experience operating supportive services or other similar projects.
- 5 points - The applicant, members or the applicant's Board, or members of the applicant's leadership team successfully handled at least one other federal grant or other major grant of this size and complexity, either in or out of the CoC. At least 90% of the funds were spent from such grants.
- 5 points - Applicant can receive 5 points if they currently participate in HMIS or an alternative database for domestic violence projects, within this CoC or another CoC. If the applicant does not actively participate in HMIS or an alternative database for domestic violence projects, the applicant can receive 2.5 points by demonstrating the capacity to collect and manage data.
- 5 points - Applicant receives 5 points if they do not have any outstanding HUD findings and/or financial audit findings.
- 5 points – Applicant receives 5 points if HUD or any other federal, state, or local agency has not deobligated any of the applicant's grant funds in the past three operating years.

FACTOR 2.B. NECESSITY OF PROJECT – 10 POINTS

- The project is necessary to assist people in exiting homelessness and increasing self-sufficiency and the recipient will conduct an annual assessment of the service needs of the program participant.

FACTOR 2.C. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES – 30 POINTS

- 15 points - Project adequately describes each supportive service (e.g. case management, employment training, substance use treatment, etc.) in line with 24 CFR 578.75(h) that will be offered to program participants.



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- 15 points - Project has described a reasonable strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage in services.

FACTOR 2.D. MAINSTREAM RESOURCES – 20 POINTS

- 20 points - Applicant adequately describes how the project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.

FACTOR 2.E. COST PER HOUSEHOLD – 10 POINTS

- The average cost per household served for the project is reasonable and consistent with 2 CFR 200.404.

FACTOR 2.F. ALIGNMENT WITH HUD AND COC NOFO – 5 POINTS

Applicant can receive up to 5 points for aligning with current HUD and NOFO priorities:

- At least 50% of the project's activities will be located [Opportunity Zone](#). To receive points for this, projects must submit a signed HUD form 2996 certifying the project is in an Opportunity Zone by the local competition deadline.

3. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ONLY (SSO) STREET OUTREACH (100 POINTS TOTAL)

FACTOR 3.A. AGENCY EXPERIENCE – 25 POINTS

Applicant can receive up to 25 points total for the following:

- 5 points - Applicant has prior experience providing street outreach or other similar projects.
- 5 points - The applicant, members or the applicant's Board, or members of the applicant's leadership team successful handled at least one other federal grant or other major grant of this size and complexity, either in or out of the CoC. At least 90% of the funds were spent from such grants.
- 5 points - Applicant can receive 5 points if they currently participate in HMIS or an alternative database for domestic violence projects, within this CoC or another CoC. If the applicant does not actively participate in HMIS or an alternative database for domestic violence projects, the applicant can receive 2.5 points by demonstrating the capacity to collect and manage data.
- 5 points - Applicant receives 5 points if they do not have any outstanding HUD findings and/or financial audit findings.
- 5 points – Applicant receives 5 points if HUD or any other federal, state, or local agency has not deobligated any of the applicant's grant funds in the past three operating years.



FACTOR 3.B. OUTREACH PLAN – 10 POINTS

- Applicant has described a reasonable plan for providing outreach services, consistent with the activity description at 24 CFR 578.53(e)(13) and has a plan for or has demonstrated effectiveness at helping people successfully exit from places not meant for human habitation to emergency shelter, treatment programs, transitional housing or permanent housing programs.

FACTOR 3.C. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES – 20 POINTS

- Project has described a reasonable strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage in services.

FACTOR 3.D. MAINSTREAM RESOURCES – 20 POINTS

- 20 points - Applicant adequately describes how the project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.

FACTOR 3.E. PARTNERING WITH FIRST RESPONDERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT – 10 POINTS

- Applicant has demonstrated a history of, or a plan for, partnering with first responders and law enforcement to engage people living in places not meant for human habitation to access emergency shelter, treatment programs, reunification with family, transitional housing or independent living. Applicant must cooperate and not interfere or impede with the enforcement of local laws such as public camping and public drug use laws and assist/be willing to assist first responders in their efforts to engage homeless individuals.

FACTOR 3.F. COST PER HOUSEHOLD – 10 POINTS

- The average cost per household served for the project is reasonable and consistent with 2 CFR 200.404.

FACTOR 3.G. ALIGNMENT WITH HUD AND COC NOFO – 5 POINTS

Applicant can receive up to 5 points for aligning with current HUD and NOFO priorities:

- At least 50% of the project's activities will be located [Opportunity Zone](#). To receive points for this, projects must submit a signed HUD form 2996 certifying the project is in an Opportunity Zone by the local competition deadline.