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SAN MATEO COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
2025 COC APPLICANT INFORMATION SESSION

**SAN MATEO COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY | FOCUS STRATEGIES,
DECEMBER 4, 2025**

Meeting Agenda



Annual CoC NOFO

1. Information on the **2025 CoC Annual NOFO** Including Key Changes Since 2024
2. Important Information for **All** Applicants
3. Information for **Renewal** Applicants
4. Information for **New** Applicants





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Information on the 2025 CoC Annual NOFO Including Key Changes Since 2024

Goal of 2025 Continuum of Care NOFO



The HUD Continuum of Care (COC) NOFO is a federal funding grant designed to:

- Promote a community-wide commitment to the **goal of ending homelessness**;
- Provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, Indian Tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities and local governments **to quickly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness**, persons experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth experiencing homelessness while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness;
- Promote access to, and effective utilization of, mainstream programs and programs funded with State or local resources; and
- Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.



Goals and Objectives of 2025 CoC NOFO



1. Ending the Crisis of Homelessness on Our Streets

HUD encourages CoCs to direct resources towards outreach, intervention, and assistance that helps people regain self-sufficiency and address **unsheltered homelessness**.

2. Prioritize Treatment and Recovery

HUD encourages CoCs to prioritize projects that provide the treatment and services people need to recover and regain self-sufficiency including **on-site behavioral health treatment, robust wraparound supportive services, and service participation requirements**.

3. Advance Public Safety

HUD encourages the **incorporation of law enforcement** to advance public safety for communities impacted by homelessness.



Goals and Objectives of 2025 CoC NOFO



4. Promote Self-Sufficiency

Self-sufficiency is one of the primary purposes of the CoC Program. HUD encourages CoCs to prioritize projects **that help lead to long-term economic independence** for individuals and families to exit homelessness and prevent future returns to homelessness.

5. Improving Outcomes

HUD encourages CoCs to prioritize projects that promote **self-sufficiency, increase employment income over government assistance, and promote treatment and recovery.**

6. Minimizing Trauma

One of the purposes of the CoC program is to **minimize the trauma associated with homelessness.** CoCs should encourage providers to provide trauma informed care and ensure participant safety in programs.



Definition of Key Terms



Continuum of Care (CoC):

A regional or local planning body responsible for **coordinating the community's response to homelessness**. The CoC oversees system planning, program performance, funding allocation, and monitoring of all HUD CoC-funded projects. Its goal is to create a coordinated system that prevents and ends homelessness across its geographic area.

Annual Renewal Demand (ARD):

The total amount of CoC Program funding required to renew all eligible renewal projects in the CoC for one year. **It represents the baseline renewal amount HUD uses in calculating the CoC's overall funding availability** for the competition.



Overview of 2025 CoC NOFO



- HUD CoC NOFO Released: November 13, 2025
- Full Application Deadline: January 14, 2026
- Funding Available **Nationally**: \$3,918,000,000



Available Funding for San Mateo CoC



Annual Renewal Demand (ARD): \$14,892,936

CoC Bonus Amount: \$2,978,587

DV Bonus amount: \$564,373





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Key Changes Since 2024

Important NOFO Changes in 2025



Smaller Tier 1

Tier 1 is significantly smaller this year. It is now set at **30% of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)**.



Funding Cap on PH Projects

Permanent Housing funding **capped at 30% of the CoC's ARD**.

For the San Mateo CoC, no more than \$4,467,800 may be used to fund permanent housing projects (e.g., PSH, and RRH).



Increased Priority for other Program Types

All other projects must be for transitional housing, supportive services only, including standalone services, street outreach, and coordinated entry, and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS - only allowed for the HMIS Lead) projects.

Implications of 2025 Changes

1. Fewer projects will be “prioritized” in Tier 1, resulting in most projects competing nationally in Tier 2.

2024

- Tier 1 (90% of ARD) **\$13,403,642**
- Tier 2 (10% of ARD) \$1,489,293



2025

- Tier 1 (30% of ARD) **\$4,467,800**
- Tier 2 (70% of ARD) \$10,425,055

2. Significant reduction in CoC funding available for permanent housing projects, resulting in some current PH projects likely losing funding.

2024

- **\$13,497,651** of SMC CoC funding was used for permanent housing programs (96% of ARD)



2025

- **Only \$4,467,800** of CoC funding can be used for permanent housing projects (30% of ARD)

Other Important Changes Since 2024



- Transitional Housing projects now allowed (and encouraged by HUD)
- Special NOFO projects are eligible to apply for renewal under this NOFO
- Updated project quality thresholds for new projects in each project component type (outlined on pages 55- 64 in NOFO)
- Expanded risk review for all applications
- New project eligibility threshold criteria with new certifications* that project applicants will not:
 - engage in racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination
 - engage in any activities under the pretext of "harm reduction."

**More information about required certifications will be available later in this presentation.*



Local Funding Priority



Preserve as much PSH as possible for people who are unable to transition to self-maintained housing.

To do this, the Review Panel may consider:

- The number of people who would lose housing
- Whether there are alternative options for a program that may be defunded
- Timing of potential funding gaps
- Program performance





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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS

Timeline for Project Applications



Date	Activity
November 13, 2025	HUD released FY25 CoC NOFO
December 1, 2025	Local CoC Competition Opens
December, 4, 2025 10:30-11:30 am	Applicant Information Session (new and renewal)
December 15, 2025 at 3:00PM PT	Project applications due to the Center on Homelessness: 1. Project Application 2. Required Attachments
December 19, 2025*	Review panel meet to rank projects
December 22, 2025*	Applicants notified of Review Panel decision and ranking
December 30, 2025	All Applicants must submit in esnaps
January 2, 2026 by 3:00 PM PT	Appeals due to Center on Homelessness using Appeals Form (located in Attachment C of the 2025 Review and Ranking Policy)
January 6, 2026	CoC Steering Committee meeting to approve the CoC Application*
January 14, 2026	Deadline for COH to submit the CoC's Consolidated Application to HUD

**Indicates an item that will take place on or around the date noted*

New Threshold Criteria: Required Certification



All project applicants must certify affirmatively to the following:

- The project applicant will not engage in racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination.
- The project applicant will not operate drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites,” knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control, permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control, or conduct any of these activities under the pretext of “harm reduction.”

New projects must meet a quality threshold criteria, which is described by program type starting on page 54 of the HUD CoC NOFO

- If awarded, a recipient must meet **all the criteria** listed in the criteria column for its component.



Threshold Criteria *New Projects*: Key Information by Project Type



Date	Key Information in 2025 NOFO
Transitional Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate that the proposed project will require program participants to take part in supportive services (e.g., case management, employment training, substance use treatment, etc.) by attaching a supportive service agreement (contract, occupancy agreement, lease, or equivalent). • Demonstrate that the proposed project will provide 40 hours per week of customized services for each program participant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 40 hours per week may be reduced proportionately for participants who are employed. • The 40 hours per week does not apply to participants over age 62 or who have a physical disability/impairment or a developmental disability (24 CFR 582.5) not including substance use disorder.

A full table of Threshold Criteria is included in the New Project Applications as well as the HUD CoC NOFO starting on page 54



Application Process Questions and Support



- Questions that are addressed during this session will be shared in a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document by Tuesday, December 9.
- If you have additional questions that are not addressed during the Applicant Information Session, please submit your questions to HSA_Homeless_Programs@smcgov.org by 12:00PM PST on **Thursday, December 11**. To ensure your questions are answered, please include [2025 NOFO QUESTION] in the subject line of your email.
- **Questions that are submitted by 12:00PM PST on December 11 can expect a response no later than EOD on Friday, December 12.** All other questions may be addressed as capacity allows but may not be answered before the application deadline



Project Application (E-snaps)



- **Only those projects accepted onto the Priority Listing will be required to submit an application in esnaps**
- Detailed instructions to complete esnaps applications are available on HUD's website at <https://www.hud.gov/hud-partners/community-coc>
 - Esnaps Navigational Guides will also be posted on this website
- **If your organization does not currently have an e-snaps account, it's strongly recommended to create accounts immediately as all projects selected to move forward in the NOFO process will be required to complete steps in the near future in e-snaps.**
- If you have questions about how to do something in esnaps, we recommend contacting COH team first before reaching out to HUD





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INFORMATION FOR NEW APPLICANTS

Available Funding for New Projects



- New project applications will be accepted to:
 - Create new projects
 - Expand an existing renewal projects; to expand an existing renewal project, the agency should submit a renewal and a new project application
 - Transitions grants will be accepted to transition a current renewal project into a new component type over 1-year period. Agencies submitting a transition project should submit a renewal and a new project application
- Funding for new Projects will come from a combination of the Bonus funding available and any reallocated funding that becomes available during the competition.

The CoC can submit multiple new project applications, as long as the total amount requested does not exceed funding available.



Allowable Project Types for New Projects



1. Transitional Housing (TH)
2. Supportive Services Only- Standalone (SSO-Standalone)
3. Supportive Services Only - Street Outreach (SSO- SO)
4. SSO-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)
5. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS- only CoC Lead Can Apply)

New DV Bonus Projects

1. Rapid Rehousing (for people meeting HUD homelessness definition)
2. Supportive Services Only- 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



Project Requirements



- Must participate in Coordinated Entry and HMIS
- One-year grant terms strongly encouraged (longer terms are allowed)
- Must begin operations in a timely manner
- Must document a 25% match. Leasing funds do not require match.
- Must attest that:
 - The project will not conduct activities that subsidize or facilitate racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination or conduct activities that rely on or otherwise use a definition of sex other than as binary in humans.
 - The project will not operate drug injection sites or "safe consumption sites," knowingly distributes drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control, permits the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control, or conducts any of these activities under the pretext of "harm reduction."

Applicants are advised to carefully review NOFO to understand allowable costs for each project type



Application Components



New Project Applicants must submit:

- Completed New Project Application Template (which includes a project budget)

New Project Application Template is available on HSA's website:

<https://www.smcgov.org/media/156978/download?inline=>



Scoring of New Projects



Rating factors are provided in the **2025 Project Review and Ranking Process** approved by CoC on December 1, 2025.

Scoring criteria for new applicants can be found in Attachment B: Scoring Factors for New Projects. <https://www.smcgov.org/media/156979/download?inline=>



Bonus Points for New Projects



Housing Bonus: Project utilizes housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through the CoC or ESG program. (5 points)

- For TH this should provide at least 25% of the units included in the project application.
- This bonus is not available for other program types.

Healthcare Bonus: (5 points)

- In the case the applicant provides substance use disorder treatment or recovery services, the leveraged resources provide access to all participants who qualify for those services; or
- In the case of healthcare or behavioral health resources, the value of the assistance being provided is at least equivalent to 25% of the funding being requested by the project.

Applicants must provide written documentation of the commitment of resources from the housing provider.





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INFORMATION FOR RENEWAL APPLICANTS

Renewal Application Process 2025



- The renewal application process is being streamlined as much as possible this year considering short timeline from HUD.
- Some changes include:
 - Applications will primarily contain project performance data that is pre-populated in each applicant's project application
 - Narrative questions have been significantly reduced
 - Application scoring has been changed to align with HUD criteria and priorities. The project review and ranking process can be found on the Center on Homelessness CoC Webpage:
<https://www.smcgov.org/media/156979/download?inline=>



Scoring of Renewal Projects



- Rating factors for project applications are provided in the [2025 Project Review and Ranking Process](#) approved by the CoC on December 1, 2025
- Renewal project scores are based on HMIS data and information provided by applicants in the Renewal Application
- Applicants receive a Score Card summarizing scores





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Resources

SMC Email List



To be added to the email list that the Center on Homelessness uses to share updates about the CoC Steering Committee and the CoC NOFO, please email

HSA_Homeless_Programs@smcgov.org



Informational and Additional Resources



- **SMC NOFO Page:** <https://www.smcgov.org/hsa/continuum-care-nofanofa>
- **HUD Exchange:** <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc>
- **HUD.GOV:** <https://www.hud.gov/hud-partners/community-coc>
- **FY25 CoC NOFO:** <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY2025-CoC-NOFO-FR-6900-N-25.pdf>
- **National Alliance to End Homelessness FY2025 CoC NOFO Resources available at:**
<https://endhomelessness.org/resources/toolkits-and-training-materials/the-system-series/>
- **Homebase FY2025 NOFO resources:** <https://www.homebaseccc.org/tools-and-policy-briefs>





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QUESTIONS ON THE ANNUAL NOFO?

