



PUBLICLY POSTED ON CoC WEBSITE ON: 9/24/19
2019 Review, Scoring and Ranking Procedures

1. Project Application Deadlines & Applicant Notifications

The CoC established deadlines for submission of project applications as follows: Renewal project applications were required to be submitted by 8/5/19 (see Attachment 1). The preliminary new project applications were due on 6/4/19 and all applicants (both DV and new-non-DV) were informed in writing on 8/19&20/19 if their project was chosen to be submitted as a new project to HUD. All CoC members were notified via email on 9/24/19 of the 2019 Ranking Strategy adopted by the Steering Committee on 8/16/19. The CoC notified in writing, outside of e-snaps all renewal and new project applicants on 9/16/19 that their applications would be accepted and ranked, rejected or reduced on the CoC Priority Listing.

2. Threshold Review

All applications for new and renewal projects are reviewed for threshold to ensure compliance with the HEARTH Act, the CoC Program Interim Rule, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), CoC written standards, and the local CoC Request for Applications. Any new or renewal project that does not meet the threshold requirements are not considered for funding.

3. Renewal Project Performance Evaluation and Selection

The CT BOS Steering Committee establishes performance evaluation standards for renewal projects annually using the following process:

- 1) Draft standards were reviewed at a Steering Committee meeting, posted to the website and distributed by email.
- 2) In each region throughout the state, Coordinated Access Networks (CANs) convene discussions regarding the proposed standards with local stakeholders.
- 3) CAN representatives bring feedback from those discussions to the Steering Committee.
- 4) Steering Committee reviews stakeholder input, makes adjustments to the standards and adopts the final standards.
- 5) Standards and actual project performance are reviewed and discussed at semi-annual public meetings where stakeholders offer input for future consideration by the Steering Committee.

The performance evaluation standards are the objective criteria used by the CoC to review, rate, rank, and select renewal projects for inclusion in or exclusion from the CoC Priority Listing. See Attachment 2 for the "2019 Renewal Evaluation Standards and Scoring." The standards were shared with the CoC on 10/2/18 Attachment 3.

Except for those programs serving Domestic Violence (DV) survivors, APR and HMIS data are used to evaluate:

- Occupancy rates
- Participant length of stay
- Rates of receipt of health insurance and other non-cash benefits
- Changes in cash benefits received
- Change in earned income



- Rate of exits to permanent housing
- Retention rates in PH
- Rate of exits to homelessness
- HMIS data quality
- Compliance with Environmental Review, match and HUD drawdown requirements
- Consumer satisfaction

DV programs are evaluated on the same criteria but benchmarks and standards are adjusted to take into consideration the special needs of the population. DV programs submit data for the renewal evaluation that is generated from their comparable database, ETO.

The CoC's consultants analyze evaluation data and score individual projects based on these criteria. Agencies receive reports for each project that show their score on each criteria as well as the total score for each project. Overall scores for all evaluated projects are distributed publicly via email and at the CoC Steering Committee Meeting.

Applicants have the opportunity submit appeals related to renewal evaluation scores and/or reallocation decisions to the Grievance Committee, which reviews and approves or denies all requests. Applicants are notified in writing of decisions by the Grievance Committee.

4. New Project Application Scoring and Selection

Annually, the CoC posts to its website and widely distributes via email an RFP for new projects funded through both bonus and reallocation and CoCs partners also post and distribute information on their websites and in newsletters, [see Attachment 4](#). The Steering Committee appoints a Scoring Committee of subject matter experts to review, rate and rank new project applications. Parties with conflicts of interest are excluded from participation on the review committee.

All new projects are reviewed according to the requirements outlined in the RFP and new project scoring standards, which evaluate the degree to which the proposed project design will meet priority needs, provide quality services and improve the CoC's system performance. The 201 "New Project RFP" for DV and non-DV new projects and "New Project Scoring Standards" are attached as [Attachment 5](#).

The Scoring committee scores each application using the Scoring Standards tool and has the discretion to recommend one or more applications for the amount available for new projects. Reviewers' scores for individual projects are averaged to calculate final scores for each application. New project applications are ranked in order of score from highest to lowest. The Steering Committee receives and votes on the recommendation from the Scoring Committee for new projects to be submitted in the CoC Application and Project Listing

The committee also may give the CoC consultants direction to work with applicants to make adjustments to strengthen applications and ensure the applications included in the final submission to HUD meet the most critical gaps identified by the CoC and use scarce resources efficiently. CoC consultants provide technical assistance to all applicants to ensure that the process is accessible to any applicant, including those that have not previously received funding.



5. Ranking Process for New and Renewal Projects

Consideration of Severity of Participant Needs and Vulnerabilities

The CoC's ranking & selection process prioritizes funding for projects serving vulnerable participants, including: youth under age 25, people experiencing chronic homelessness, people with zero income, criminal history, active substance use, and those reluctant to engage in services. For example, the CoC took these actions to ensure consideration of these vulnerabilities:

- CoC ranked and selected new projects based on:
 1. applicant experience & capacity to serve vulnerable people (e.g., chronically homeless, active substance users, people reluctant to engage, people with criminal history, zero income &/or disabilities, unsheltered)
 2. a clear outreach & supportive services plan to engage & serve the most vulnerable people using a Housing First approach.

New or Renewal Projects not targeting vulnerable populations are not submitted in the Project Listing for the CoC. Only PSH with Dedicated Plus criteria, RRH projects, and TH projects for DV or Youth using a low barrier Housing First approach were selected for funding.

Ranking and Bonus Policy Decisions - CT BOS 2019 CoC Application

Approved by Steering Committee 8/16/2019

2019 Ranking and Bonus Policy Decisions:

1. General Ranking Order:

- Renewal Projects that have been evaluated in order of CT BOS CoC Evaluation Score, HMIS, reallocations and Coordinated Entry projects in Tier 1
- Followed by first time Renewal Projects that have not yet been evaluated ranked to provide the maximum score on the relative ranking factor (1-X), mostly in Tier 2
- Followed by New Projects - regular and DV bonuses in order of preferred mathematical advantage for the CoC, also in Tier 2

Motion: To approve the general ranking order. Motion passes.

2. General Bonus Allocation: (\$1,919,256)

- Allocate the bonus funds in half
- The CoC will divide the bonus into two applications: two at \$959,628 each

Motion: To approve the general bonus allocation. Motion passes.

3. Types of Bonus Projects for General Bonus

- Applications were received for PSH and RRH. Last year, BOS submitted two projects and one was funded.



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- *Vote on whether to fund RRH, PSH or both.
Motion: To fund both RRH and PSH. The order of the applications to be 1) PSH, 2) RRH.
Motion passes.*