

Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care (FL-505)
Fiscal Year 2026 HUD Continuum of Care Program
Competition
Request for Application and Funding Process

Local Competition Deadline: July 20, 2026

**Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care (FL-505)
FY2026 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Fiscal Year 2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition (CPD-2600-DC-0025) June 1, 2026. The full NOFO can be downloaded here: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/361999>. The full NOFO will also be published on the local competition portion of the Homelessness & Housing Alliance website at: www.hhalliance.org/funding-opportunities.

Homelessness & Housing Alliance services as the lead agency and Collaborative Applicant for the Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care (FL-505). HUD is accepting proposals through the Collaborative Applicant for projects that wish to use CoC Program funding for Permanent Housing – Permanent Supportive Housing, Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing, Transitional Housing, Supportive Services for Outreach, and Transition Grants. This notice services as an overview of the local competition process and opportunity to apply for funds.

The CoC Program (24 CFR 578) is a national competition between geographic areas 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 homeless individuals and families, persons experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to, or fleeing or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and homeless youth 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 homeless individuals and families.

New and renewal project applications will be accepted and prioritized for funding by the Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care Grant Review Committee. Awards can be issued through reallocation or expansion of existing projects. A project is considered a new project if the project was created by reallocating funds from an eligible project to a different project type. A transition grant funds a new CoC project through the reallocation process to transition eligible renewal projects from one program component to another over a 1-year period.

The CoC encourages applications from applicants that have never previously received CoC funds as well as from applicants that are currently receiving or have previously received CoC funds. The CoC provides technical assistance to ensure that the process is accessible to all eligible applicants, including those who have not received CoC funds in the past. Prospective applicants are encouraged to read this entire document, attachments, and HUD Program Guides including the NOFO before submitting and application to ensure all requirements are met.

The Grant Review Committee will competitively rank projects on how they improve the performance of the local homeless assistance system and will reallocate funds to higher performing projects in alignment with HUD priorities. HUD's published goals for projects funded through the CoC Program Competition include:

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1. Improving Outcomes – including optimizing self-sufficiency, reducing homelessness, and minimizing the trauma caused to communities as a whole by homelessness.
2. Creating Competition to Improve Innovation and Accountability
3. Restoring Balance to the Continuum of Care
4. Prioritizing Treatment and Recovery as a Means to Self-Sufficiency
5. Promoting Economic Self-Sufficiency
6. Advancing Public Safety for All
7. Minimizing Trauma for Vulnerable Populations – especially for youth and survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
8. Expanding Access Based on Merit, and Not Ideology

Prospective applicants should read the Review, Prioritization, and Ranking procedures attachments for more information on reallocating, prioritization to align with HUD’s funding priorities, and ranking.

The NOFO establishes a tiered system for funding renewal projects, new projects, and bonus projects. Consistent with the FY26 federal appropriation bill, HUD is setting Tier 1 at 60% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) and competing 40% of the CoC ARD on the basis of merit between geographic areas. Okaloosa Walton Homeless CoC anticipates funding levels below. Exact totals may be updated once HUD publishes official final eligible project amounts.

- *Estimated* Annual Renewal Demand (ARD): \$748,994
- *Estimated* Tier 1 funding: \$449,396
- *Estimated* Tier 2 funding: \$299,598
- CoC Bonus funding: \$500,000
- *Estimated* DV Bonus funding: \$149,799

Eligible project applicants:

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

A faith-based organization may apply on the same basis as any other organization, subject to the requirement in 24 CFR 5.109, and receive the full protections for religion in Federal law. HUD does not engage in any unlawful and improper conduct, policies, or practices that target faith-based organizations.

Ineligible applicants:

- Individuals
- For-profit entities

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Additional details on eligibility can be found in the NOFO under Section II.A.

HUD has allocated approximately \$4,040,000,000 in total funding available through this NOFO. Thresholds for DV projects, Permanent Housing projects for families with children and new projects have been established for funding prioritization. The Conditional Selection Process establishes the order in which ranked projects will be funded.

The Conditional Selection Process:

- 1st** All CoC Planning and UFA Costs applications that meet the project threshold requirements.
(Note: CoC Planning awards do not factor against the CoC's total ARD)
- 2nd** All projects ranking in Tier 1 that meeting project threshold requirements. (Can include any project type, new or renewal, including DV Bonus projects.)
- 3rd** If DV Bonus ranking in Tier 1 equals \$104 million, no further action needed. If the total does not equal \$104 million, DV Bonus projects in Tier 2 will be selected until the \$104 million threshold is met.
- 4th** If PH projects for families with children ranking in Tier 1 equals \$430 million, no further action is needed. If the total does not equal \$430 million, PH projects for families with children in Tier 2 will be selected until the \$430 million threshold is met.
- 5th** NEW Transitional Housing and Supportive Services Only projects ranking in Tier 2 by project score. (Can include DV Bonus for TH and SSO not already selected) until \$1.3 billion of NEW projects have been selected.

If funding from the original \$4,040,000,000 total amount is still available:

- 6th** Other types of NEW projects ranked in Tier 2 by project score until the \$1.3 billion threshold has been reached. Once the \$1.3 billion in new projects has been reached, HUD will remove any remaining unselected new projects.
- 7th** Finally, HUD will select renewal projects ranking in Tier 2 that meet project threshold requirements by Tier 2 score until all remaining funds have been expended.

Applications will be reviewed based on Threshold Criteria, Merit, and Risk. Applications that meet HUD's threshold requirements for new and renewal projects (Section V.A) will move on to be reviewed and scored through the Merit Review process.

HUD's Merit Review will award up to 200 points for:

- Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking – 14 points
- System Performance – 64 points
- Coc Coordination and Engagement – 122 points
 - Accountable Structure and Planning
 - Community Coordination
 - Coordination to Serve Subpopulations

Up to 20 Bonus Points are available during the Merit Review for:

- CoC Merger (not applicable to FL-505) – 6 points
- Policy Initiative Preference – 14 points

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Before making any awards, including renewals, HUD will evaluate each applicant’s likelihood of successfully carrying out the project by identifying risks that may affect the advancement toward or the achievement of a project’s goals and objectives.

HUD’s Risk Review will look at:

- Past Performance
- Organizational Health
- Results

When making award funding decisions, HUD may also consider additional factors described in Section V of the NOFO.

Local Competition Scoring/Prioritization

Scoring and ranking of applications will be completed by the Grants Committee, which is comprised of CoC members in good standing who are not employed by or associated with any project agencies applying for funds to avoid any inherent or potential conflicts of interest. Homelessness & Housing Alliance will complete a threshold eligibility review on all submitted applications prior to Grants Committee review. The Grants Committee will score eligible projects according to the objective criteria provided as part of the application process and will rank proposals via the Tiered Prioritization based on final scores. The Grants Committee can choose to rank a project for funding in whole or in part based on available funds.

A final list of accepted projects and the overall ranking including the amounts of funding submitted for each project will be published on the HHA website and all applicants will be notified in writing via email whether their proposal was accepted or rejected no later than August 10, 2026. Applicants wishing to appeal any rejected project may do so in writing to director@hhalliance.org no later than August 14, 2026.

The local competition threshold for renewal applications will consider:

- Timely application submission
- Complete application
- Applicant eligibility
- Project eligibility
 - Applicants and subrecipients must meet eligibility requirements
 - Applicants and subrecipients must demonstrate the financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project as detailed in the application
 - The population to be served must meet program eligibility requirements
 - Project applicants must agree to participate in the local HMIS system. (Victim Service Providers must use a comparable database)
 - Applicants must submit the required certifications
 - Applicants must certify affirmatively that:
 - The applicant will not operate drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites”
 - The applicant will not engage in illegal racial discrimination.

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- Document requirements:
 - Signed authorization to apply for CoC funding on agency letterhead
 - Most recent IRS 990 or audit report and auditor’s management letter
 - IRS 501(c)(3) designation letter
 - Current Board roster
 - Code of Conduct Policy
 - Conflict of Interest Policy
 - Financial Procedures Policy
 - Valid SAM.gov registration

For HUD to consider new projects as meeting quality threshold, additional detailed threshold requirements for new projects are described in the NOFO Section V.A.4.c and vary based on project type.

The FL-505 CoC Scoring Rubric will mirror the merit review requirements detailed in the NOFO to prioritize and rank local projects with the highest likelihood of success and award. A Tiered Prioritization of local competition applications will be used to determine final project rankings. Projects in Tier 1 will be reviewed and then ranked in Tier 1 by overall score. Projects in Tier 2 will be reviewed and ranked under Tier 1 projects by overall score. Projects in Tier 3 will be reviewed and ranked under Tier 2 projects by overall score.

Tiered Prioritization of Local Competition Applications:

- Tier 1 – HUD mandated service delivery renewals (SSO-Coordinated Entry & HMIS)
- Tier 2 – Permanent Housing, (PSH) Projects (new or renewal)
- Tier 3 – DV Bonus Projects
- Tier 4 – Permanent Housing Projects for families with children
- Tier 5 – NEW Transitional Housing or SSO projects
- Tier 6 – Other types of NEW projects
- Tier 7 – All remaining renewal projects

If no projects are submitted in each prioritization tier, the ranking will continue with the next available tier. These prioritization tiers are in direct correlation to HUD’s Conditional Selection Process and will ensure the highest competition for local competition applications at the federal level.

All applicants awarded CoC Program funds are to be monitored and evaluated at least annually by the CoC. The Grant Committee reserves the right to utilize previous evaluations, HMIS data, and outcomes in the decision-making process for future applications. Awarded applicants must comply with FL-505 Written Standards and maintain CoC membership in good standing.

Critical deadlines

- June 21 – Detailed local competition RFA publicized
- June 22 – NOFO kickoff meeting via Zoom
(details on the NOFO website: hhalliance.org/funding-opportunities)

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June 29 – Application training via Zoom

(details on the NOFO website: hhalliance.org/funding-opportunities)

July 20 – Local project applications DUE

July 21-30 – Threshold review complete & projects delivered to Grants Committee

July 31 – Grants Committee completes final approval/rejection/scoring/ranking

Aug. 8 – Board of Directors approves final ranking

Aug. 10 – Public release of all accepted/rejected applications and final ranking with funded amount

Aug. 11-25 Final review and e-Snaps upload

Aug. 26 – Collaborative Application due in e-Snaps

Local project application submission

All project applications must be submitted in e-Snaps **and** one hard copy hand-delivered to the HHA administrative office, 906 Marwalt Dr., Unit G, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547 NO LATER THAN 5pm CST July 20, 2026.

Mailed hard copy applications not received by 5pm CST on July 20, 2026 will not be considered for funding. Hard copy applications must include all narrative, budget, and attachment requirements.

Complete applications include:

1. Complete e-Snaps submittal with all required attachments
2. Delivery of hard copy including all narrative, budget, and attachment requirements to HHA's administrative office, 906 Marwalt Dr., Unit G, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547. Required documents include:
 - a. Signed authorization to apply for CoC funding on agency letterhead
 - b. Most recent IRS 990 or audit report and auditor's management letter
 - c. IRS 501(c)(3) designation letter
 - d. Current Board roster
 - e. Code of Conduct Policy
 - f. Conflict of Interest Policy
 - g. Financial Procedures Policy
 - h. Valid SAM.gov registration

Required attachments for the local competition may be more than required in e-Snaps. Please ensure all required documents are included in the hard copy application.

Technical assistance questions regarding this local competition RFA including accessibility accommodations can be emailed to director@hhalliance.org.

Specific questions regarding the NOFO published by HUD can be emailed to cocnofo@hud.gov.