

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:

- 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

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: NE-501 - Omaha, Council Bluffs CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Metro Area Continuum of Care for the Homeless

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Institute for Community Alliances

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	No

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:

- 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

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.	09/01/2022

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)?	No
	2. Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	No
	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.	

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.	10/05/2022
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.	10/18/2022

2A. System Performance

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

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. MACCH convened the Performance Management Task Force (PMTF) to review CoC data and explore risk factors for first time homelessness. PMTF identified two primary reasons; the loss of housing subsidy and the lack of knowledge by consumers and providers about mainstream and prevention/diversion resources across the CoC. This process reviewed local data from HMIS and from consumer feedback as to the causes of their homelessness. MACCH has further refined this process by including input from the two lived experience boards, the Youth Advisory Board (YAB) and Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) in the planning efforts to address these factors.
2. Through the CE Steering Committee, special attention is paid to the identified risk factors and plans were developed to address these factors, including:
 - a. Diversion- Access Points conduct formal screening by trained assessors to divert households whenever possible from the homeless system through exploration of alternate resources
 - b. Homelessness Prevention in CES- Agencies that receive prevention funding (eviction prevention, first/last/security to move into alternate housing) quickly bridge participants to prevention resources to prevent homelessness.
 - c. Ongoing landlord engagement- MACCH's Diversified Housing Task Force works with local property management to encourage acceptance and retention of vouchers and to encourage closer collaboration between property owners and agencies to assist individuals in retaining housing and vouchers. The CoC has also partnered with the Metro Housing Collaborative (MHC), which is a new organization dedicated to expanding landlord engagement and providing incentives to reduce the number of individuals entering into homelessness for the first time.
 - d. Housing Problem Solving (HPS)- MACCH leads a CoC-wide initiative to distribute private funds to be used for prevention, diversion and rapid exit from shelter. These funds are targeted to households experiencing first time homelessness.
 - e. Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA)- MACCH subcontracts with the City of Omaha to administer ERA, with special consideration given to reduce barriers and prevent households from becoming homeless the first time.
3. MACCH's CE Program Manager is responsible for items 2a-d above and the ERA Program Manager is responsible for item 2e.

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. The CoC is engaged in the following strategies to reduce the LoT individuals and families remain homeless:
 - a. CE & Housing Problem Solving (HPS)- CE is focused on prioritizing individuals with high barriers and the longest LoT homeless. HPS efforts identify households where light-touch intervention is necessary to rapidly exit households from homelessness with flexible funding and mitigation conversations.
 - b. Progressive Engagement- all households are considered for RRH services first. The CoC has greater RRH capacity and more turnover that speeds referrals for those with long homeless episodes to be housed quickly.
 - c. Effective Outreach/In-reach- Through the CES all unsheltered individuals can be referred to outreach services that engage individuals in services and housing focused case management. In-reach is done through navigators that work with individuals in ES with long LoT homeless, but lower in the priority pool for RRH or PSH. Navigators identify housing options outside of the homeless system.
 - d. Housing-Focused Case Management- ES providers have moved to housing-focused case management to help individuals identify housing opportunities and move quickly when referred to RRH or PSH programs.
 - e. Private landlord engagement- The CoC's DHTF works with private landlords to increase housing options for individuals looking for housing. The CoC's partnership with MHC also has increased landlord engagement through targeted incentives for households exiting homelessness.
 - f. Mainstream housing- The CoC continues to work with PHA's to increase the number of available vouchers dedicated for homeless households. This includes HCV's, Mainstream vouchers and homeless preferences.
2. The CE prioritization policy uses LoT homeless and length of current episode as criteria for referral. The CE assessment obtains this information from participant responses and HMIS data. The community queue (BNL) is designed to sort, and filter based on these, and other prioritization criteria. Referrals to project openings are based on this prioritization criteria.
3. MACCH's CE & HPS Manager as well as the Dir. of Programs are responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategies.

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's strategies to increase exits to permanent housing (PH) include:
 - a. Housing Problem Solving (HPS)- Access Point staff work with ES participants to identify permanent housing options. These rapid exit from shelter focuses on progressive engagement designed to identify safe stable housing options, developing a housing plan and provides light-touch, flexible funding to achieve housing.
 - b. Housing focused case management- Case management across all project types (ES, TH, RRH, PSH) not only seek to meet immediate needs, but also are housing-focused designed to reduce the length of homelessness and increase PH exits and retention.
 - c. Technical Assistance- The CoC has invited TA to assist RRH and PSH providers in improving interventions to achieve higher rates of PH exit and retention. This includes barrier identification, income improvement and better support services.
 - d. Navigators- The CoC has navigators that work with individuals in ES, that would not be immediately prioritized by CE, to identify permanent housing options including PHA voucher programs and LIHTC providers.
 - e. Landlord & PHA Engagement- MACCH's Diversified Housing Task force (DHTF) continues to build relationships with property owners/management companies to encourage renting to individuals experiencing homelessness, accepting housing vouchers and better linkages to support services. DHTF also negotiates with the local PHAs to obtain voucher set-asides and additional homeless preferences. The CoC's partnership with Metro Housing Collaborative (MHC) also allows for incentives to be provided to landlords accepting households exiting homelessness at unit entry and 6 & 12 month sustainability.
2. Current strategies to increase exit to/retention of PH for participants in permanent housing include all of the above strategies, in addition to:
 - a) Fidelity to Housing First- Specifically not exiting participants for evictions or perceptions of general non-compliance. Assisting participants with high barriers in retaining housing;
 - b) Trauma Informed Care- System wide training and support to help CM's better understand the role of trauma and how it can affect housing stability;
 - and c) Move on- Working with PHA's and other PH opportunities to expand opportunities for participants to retain permanent housing with built in subsidies.

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. MACCH's Performance Management Task Force (PMTF) reviews HMIS and CE data and information from providers to identify reasons for returns, including regular review of SPM data. The CoC has identified that primary factors include lack of income or ongoing rental subsidy, rent burden without subsidy and timing out of subsidy. PMTF is trying to isolate households that return within 6 months of exit to identify what additional factors could have prevented their return so soon after successful exit.
2. Strategies to reduce rate of returns:
 - a. MACCH has worked with housing providers to improve aftercare services that offer continuing support for those exiting to PH. Services include case management as needed, referrals to community resources such as prevention assistance, or additional connections with mainstream benefits.
 - b. The CES is improving linkages between prevention providers, access points and housing providers to identify former participants who may be at risk of losing housing and offering supports to ensure housing retention. The implementation of HPS within the CoC also allows for light-touch, flexible funding to be available to prevent households from returning to homelessness.
 - c. Increased PHA engagement to apply for additional vouchers to provide ongoing subsidy for individuals exiting RRH/PSH. PHA's have applied for Mainstream Vouchers and FUP vouchers for families and homeless youth. These efforts have achieved success with the award of additional vouchers to provide long-term subsidies to households exiting homelessness.
 - d. MACCH, through the DHTF and partnership with MHC, has expanded landlord engagement efforts to help individuals and families identify affordable and sustainable units to allow for transition in place once assistance ends. This includes informational events focused on landlord recruitment and educational efforts to describe services, rental supports and landlord tenant rights. Landlord incentives are also available through MHC, both at the time of lease-up as well as 6 & 12 months lease retention.
 - e. MACCH has developed partnerships with WIOA and other workforce providers to increase employment income and training opportunities for long term stability.
3. MACCH is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of individuals and persons in families returns to homelessness.

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. MACCH's strategy to increase employment cash sources includes: 1) building partnerships with workforce sector and supporting providers to build these partnerships; 2) creating employment opportunities specifically for people experiencing homelessness, and 3) engaging local employers in CoC planning to increase engagement. MACCH continues to build relationships that foster access to employment cash sources for individuals experiencing homelessness to encourage long term stability. MACCH works to support the efforts of homeless service providers who also provide employment services. MACCH continues to work with WIOA providers to gain access to training and employment options and to build relationships with private employers to provide opportunities for participants. Several agencies within the CoC have expanded their workforce and employment services. These activities help identify employment opportunities for homeless individuals. The City of Omaha and the local Salvation Army operate a joint program to offer employment opportunities for individuals in ES called The Way to Work. This program offers pay above minimum wage to promote job experience and links employees to supportive services and employment resources.

2. MACCH works to identify new opportunities and partnerships in the community whether through private or public entities and to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness increase their cash income. Information on new resources are shared through CoC general membership meetings and the listserv. In 2019 the CoC entered into a first-ever MOU with state and local WIOA agencies to promote further employment and training accessibility. This MOU remains in place today. MACCH continues to work with providers to address reported transportation barriers to employment including public transit and private transportation services for individuals experiencing homelessness. MACCH has also partnered with various mainstream employment organizations including Nebraska Workforce Development and Heartland Workforce Solutions to identify training and employment opportunities for individuals that are homeless, as well as Heart Ministry Center, General Assistance, and offices of the City of Omaha that promote workforce development.

3. MACCH is the responsible entity for efforts related to increasing access to employment cash income.

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 & 2. MACCH's strategy to increase non-employment cash income and increase access to non-cash sources is twofold. First, to ensure that staff at agencies are educated about non-employment assistance programs and how to access them. This includes trainings on eligibility, appeal processes and changes benefit programs to ensure all qualified individuals apply for and receive benefits. Second, work to ensure that all participants are quickly assisted to enroll in all benefits for which they are eligible and are provided support to navigate the application process by trained staff within the CoC. MACCH works to develop partnership with both homeless providers, mainstream benefit providers and agencies that provide supportive services to increase access to non-employment benefits. MACCH uses general membership meetings and listserv notifications to provide trainings and share information about non-employment benefits and how to access them. Specifically, MACCH partners with local HHS, General Assistance, and SOAR representatives to increase access to mainstream benefits (including TANF, Food Stamps, Medicaid/Medicare, childcare assistance, WIC, SSI, LIHEAP and more) and facilitates partnerships between homeless service agencies and mainstream providers to ensure that access is easily available through onsite applications. Additionally, partner agencies such as Community Alliance continues to provide SOAR services through its PATH program and has expanded services to homeless individuals in other programs to ensure access to SOAR resources. The CoC also entered into an MOU with DHHS in 2022 that will allow for data sharing between HMIS and DHHS systems to ensure households eligible for Medicaid (including those made eligible through Medicaid expansion) are connected and enrolled.

3. MACCH is the responsible entity for overseeing strategies to increase nonemployment cash income.

2B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

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

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	Yes	Yes
7.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	No	Yes
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	No	Yes
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
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	Yes	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	Yes	Yes	Yes
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	Yes	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. Multiple platforms are used in recruiting including public meetings, electronic medium and in person meetings to solicit year-round. New members can join at any time and the CoC uses General Membership meetings as a tool to encourage participation for new organizations. Specifically, in 2021 MACCH targeted efforts to recruit new members around the migration of the HMIS system and the continued expansion of the Housing Problem Solving (HPS) project. In early 2022, multiple new agencies became HPS agencies, including agencies serving undeserved and marginalized populations. MACCH's website has an option to join as a member year-round and we have designated staff that reach out to new or unrepresented agencies to discuss CoC participation. This staff also meets 1:1 with agencies who inquire directly on how to become a member and participate within the CoC.
2. The CoC uses multiple channels to ensure all individuals, including those with disabilities, can become members and apply for CoC funds. The use of announcements in different electronic forms including PDF and web-based applications, accessible training and meeting spaces, in-person information and training sessions and one-on-one outreach are used. Meetings are always held in accessible locations and CoC staff work to accommodate all disabilities during meetings. MACCH also offers virtual options for meeting participation across all groups/meetings to ensure participation is not limited to those who can access in-person.
3. Outreach to individuals with lived experience is occurring through in-person engagement with individuals in emergency shelters and in unsheltered situations, and invitations to regular focus groups is helping to recruit new members of the CoC through participation in the two lived experience boards, which also participate in other CoC decision-making groups.
4. MACCH actively engages individuals and groups who are underrepresented or missing from local planning efforts. In 2021-2022 MACCH recruited new members who represented immigrant and refugee populations and additional members who work with Black and Latino populations. An equity core group has existed since 2021 to assess all aspects of CoC accessibility and ensure equity within the Coordinated Entry System (CES) and CoC broadly. This equity core group is representative of BIPOC individuals, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities, in addition to individuals with lived experience in the local homeless system.

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. MACCH has formal work groups that design the local system and drive changes to improve services. Membership is diverse including homeless service providers, child welfare system, workforce development and people with lived experience. Groups focus on increasing access to services, decreasing length of time homeless and improving access to systems of support. Groups provide input directly through the workgroup process or through solicitations of feedback through surveys, proposed policy language or general membership meetings. MACCH has developed two lived experience advisory boards, one a youth advisory board (YAB) consisting of 8 youth/young adult members and a second consumer advisory board (CAB) consisting of individuals currently or having recently experienced homelessness locally. These advisory boards are engaged on system issues and design and representatives from these boards are currently being integrated into other MACCH work groups to ensure lived experience is present at all places where decisions are being made.

2. MACCH uses agendas, minutes and project trackers to ensure information is communicated broadly and that all participants are informed of ongoing work. MACCH uses multiple platforms to communicate information and to solicit feedback. These include:

- Share Point: A cloud-based system that allows MACCH to post meeting agendas, minutes and documents and share them with all interested parties;
- Listserv: MACCH utilizes an open listserv for all members of the CoC. This provides information on upcoming meetings, projects and activities and opportunities for feedback;
- Social Media: MACCH uses social media to relay information to partners and the public about projects, activities and data related to homelessness and performance;
- Virtual meeting availability: to ensure that individuals are able to participate in meetings regardless of their location.

3. MACCH uses information from meetings and forums to drive system improvements in performance. These include direct feedback on proposed policies and projects, surveys for the purpose and focus of work groups, refinement of the CES and annual HUD NOFO applications, identification of promising practices and emerging community issues that are impacting housing stability and homelessness. As an example, in 2021-2022, CoC members weighed in on the Standards of Administration of Assistance, NOFO scoring and policies/procedures, and CES system prioritization.

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. MACCH announced the opening of our competition via our email listserv (which includes all CoC members and community partners, including those not currently receiving CoC funding), on our CoC website, and across all CoC social media channels.
2. Open solicitations were distributed to the entire CoC via the email listerv and posted to the MACCH website and social media. They were also announced during the monthly General Membership meeting. Agencies receive information that describes the process, intent to submit and documents required. Training and technical assistance, including 1:1 meetings, are specifically targeted to new applicants for CoC funding. A formal NOFO training, including new project information, was provided and several new agencies participated. The new project preliminary application also encourages new agencies to apply.
3. New project preliminary applications must be submitted electronically via email. Applications received by the due date are reviewed. Instructions to complete the application are provided via email and web posting and are included in the application itself. The scoring rubric is also provided for informational purposes, in addition to the CoC policies on ranking and appeals.
4. As part of solicitation and training prospective grantees are informed of qualifications and requirements of the process. The CoC uses a preliminary application to ensure new projects meet minimum threshold for funding. The new project scoring rubric is also publicly posted/shared, so that applicants are aware of what factors will be considered by the review committee when selecting new projects. If a project fails to meet threshold, they are given the opportunity to make changes to meet the requirement. All eligible applications are reviewed by a nonconflicted review committee and are scored and ranked per CoC policy. This review includes experience and success serving the target populations, administering federal funds and alignment with strategic goals. The ranking process is included in the CoC's Ranking and Reallocation Procedures.
5. The CoC uses multiple means to ensure all individuals, including those with disabilities can apply for NOFO funds. The use of announcements in different electronic forms (PDF and web-based applications), accessible training spaces, in-person information and training sessions and one-on-one outreach are all intended to successfully engage new partners in the process.

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

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

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)	Nonexistent
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
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)	Yes
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. MACCH actively collaborates with the two ESG and ESG-CV funding agencies in the CoC, the City of Omaha and State of Iowa for Pottawattamie County. The CoC works with ESG recipients annually to ensure that funding priorities are aligned across programs by a) providing input on the ESG/CV funding application and review process; b) making non-binding recommendations on awards; and c) providing CoC data on needs/gaps to inform allocation of ESG resources.
2. MACCH works with ESG/CV funded agencies to establish reporting performance standards and review of ESG/CV applications. Specifically, MACCH has shared with the City of Omaha review score sheets that can be used to objectively evaluate performance of ESG recipients. MACCH continues to work with the City of Omaha to expand its role in the ESG process including better integration with CoC efforts including monitoring of sub-recipients and the allocation and award process. MACCH has worked with ESG-CV recipients to ensure spending and reporting requirements are met and that projects are successful. It is MACCH's goal that the ESG/CV and CoC programs work in conjunction to better prioritize available funding and to support households experiencing housing instability and homelessness.
3. MACCH provides PIT/HIC data to the ESG jurisdictions for planning efforts and ESG jurisdictions participate in workgroups and committees of the CoC to better coordinate efforts and advance planning goals.
4. MACCH works closely with the ESG jurisdictions in the development of the local Con Plan. This includes providing data and information about homelessness and housing instability, aligning Con Plan and annual goals with those of the CoC strategic plan, USICH Federal Strategic Plan and creating comparable measurable outcomes when appropriate. In 2020, MACCH worked closely with the city of Omaha in updating their Con Plan and CV amendments including providing substantial data and analysis on sections related to homelessness and housing. Additionally, MACCH works in partnership with the ESG/CV entitlement districts to update the annual Action Plan, which also includes data analysis and performance review.

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. MACCH has regular engagement with local education providers to better coordinate services for children, families and unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness. Youth education providers, LEAs and school districts all participate in the monthly Youth Task Force (YTF) meetings and are members of the CoC. CoC youth and family representatives regularly engage with local school districts, LEAs and the SEA to ensure service connection for children and unaccompanied youth. The MACCH YTF works directly with all homeless liaisons and school districts, ensuring the identification of homeless students and families within the CoC. This collaboration includes participation in CoC sponsored meetings, collaboration among liaisons and all youth and family homeless service providers and ensuring educational access and attainment for homeless youth. Additionally, MACCH and the YTF engage with Head Start and pre-school programs to ensure that young children have access to services that may be beneficial in future educational attainment. MACCH provides all entities with resources and the ability to connect with the CoC's CES and several school districts are pre-screening households for eligibility.

2. Initially started as a pandemic response, MACCH now operates a robust Housing Problem Solving (HPS) program, which encompasses diversion and mitigation support, as well as access to rapid exit assistance for households experiencing homelessness. Through HPS, MACCH has formal partnerships (MOUs) with local school districts that link school-based social workers, who work with homeless liaisons, with dedicated HPS staff to provide mediation and flexible funding assistance to ensure families retain housing or are quickly rehoused if they enter the shelter system. This project has served nearly 1,900 households since beginning in March 2020. MACCH's YTF also has a formal partnership with Operation Youth Alliance (OYA), which has coordinated education and employment resources through the Youth HUB within the CoC, in partnership with the local community college. Youth-serving agencies within MACCH also have formal partnership agreements with OYA.

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)

Per MACCH's approved Standards of Administration of Assistance, which governs the operations of all CoC, ESG, and state housing trust fund recipients, MACCH member agencies work with public school McKinney-Vento funded personnel to ensure homeless children are enrolled in early childhood programs and/or school. Each agency funded under the programs listed above must appoint a specific staff member to serve as the liaison between the program and the school district to ensure educational rights are received and all children are connected to appropriate services. Per the aforementioned Standards, all providers are required to inform families of their educational rights and services available under the McKinney-Vento Act and maintain regular contact with homeless liaisons in the public school systems locally. These requirements are monitored through MACCH's Director of Programs and Compliance and technical assistance is provided, when necessary. MACCH works to ensure representatives from public and private schools in the CoC's geographic area are represented in task forces and work groups to provide updates on local school efforts to identify homeless students and those households at imminent risk of homelessness. Primarily this work takes place in the Youth Task Force. The representation of schools also builds relationships between providers and schools to further the goals of the McKinney-Vento Act by ensuring open discussions of the needs of homeless youth, the services available to them and opportunities to build bridges between the two systems to ensure access and support.

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	Yes

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. MACCH systematically ensures that all agencies are updated on mainstream resources (SNAP, TANF, SSI/SSDI, etc.) through presentations at monthly meetings, via CoC listserv emails, and co-locating services (health services, benefits access services) at provider agencies. DHHS representatives (both Nebraska and Iowa) and Charles Drew Health Center (the local Federally Qualified Health Center [FQHC]), are two examples of organizations that have committed resources and regularly share these with the entire CoC through general membership meetings and other CoC work groups.
2. MACCH has expanded our collaborations with healthcare organizations through partnerships with the local managed care organizations (MCOs) and partnerships with DHHS to ensure all individuals are screened for eligibility and connected with resources at project intake. DHHS and MACCH entered into an MOU in 2022 that allows immediate referral for Medicaid services and connection with mainstream resources. This information is captured and tracked within HMIS and shared with DHHS to ensure access and accountability for MCOs. Additionally, all homeless individuals have access to free substance abuse and mental health treatment resources at two CoC-participating providers, regardless of CoC entry point. Free healthcare services are available at all local emergency shelters through partnerships with local providers. The CoC also works in partnership with the Visiting Nurse Association who regularly participates in CoC-wide street outreach services to connect those most vulnerable with healthcare, substance abuse, and mental health resources.
3. The CoC also operates a highly successful SOAR Project, funded through DHHS, to connect homeless individuals with SSI/SSDI benefits. Each CoC & ESG-funded provider is required to have SOAR-certified staff to assist through the entitlement process. The CoC partners with DHHS semi-annually to provide SOAR certification training for staff at all CoC & ESG-funded agencies and monitors for compliance. The CoC also has advocated to the State legislatures for expanded DHHS funding to maintain SOAR certification support. Substance abuse programming is also available through five CoC partner organizations, targeted to individuals experiencing homelessness.

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?	No

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
--	----

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

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/15/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/15/2022
2A. System Performance	10/15/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/17/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/15/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	10/15/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required