2021 CoC NOFO for YHDP Communities

September 30, 2021
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HUD
Speakers

Regina Lee
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Purpose of this webinar

To walk through the YHDP-specific information in the FY2021 CoC NOFO, including:

• Non-competitive application process;
• Renewal vs replacement;
• Match;
• Special YHDP activities.

It is NOT our purpose to:

• Respond to questions on the general CoC application
• Respond to non-YHDP project questions
Why now?

• The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (PL 116-260) included new language for YHDP renewals that was not in previous Appropriations.
  • ...amounts made available for the Continuum of Care program ...may be used to competitively or non-competitively renew or replace grants for youth homeless demonstration projects under the Continuum of Care program, notwithstanding any conflict with the requirements of the Continuum of Care program;
• CoCs non-competitively renew or replace YHDP projects:

• YHDP Replacement projects will be reviewed to ensure that they meet threshold and are within ARA; however, no YHDP replacement project will be rejected;
  • If errors are found, HUD will work with replacement YHDP recipients to correct or revise information submitted.

• YHDP Renewals and Replacement projects MUST be listed on the priority listing, but they do not need to be ranked, similar to CoC Planning projects.
Non-competitive renewal or replacement

• If recipients want to change some or all of the activities included in the YHDP Renewal project, they must submit a replacement project.
  • If both a replacement project and a renewal project are submitted, the renewal project will be funded.
  • Replacement projects cannot exceed the budget of the YHDP project they are replacing.
  • Replacement projects cannot be consolidated with other projects.
YHDP projects can:

- Consolidate with other YHDP projects; (Section II.B.6 and V.B.4.a.(7)); (YHDP Renewal only)

- Implement YHDP activities not generally allowed under the CoC program (Section V.B.4.a.(5)). (YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement)

- A YHDP Replacement project can have a different recipient than that of the YHDP Renewal it is replacing
YHDP projects (Renewal and Replacement) cannot:

- Consolidate with a non-YHDP project;
- Consolidate a replacement YHDP project;
- Use the expansion process;
- Use the reallocation process.
- Request more than 1 year grant terms
Reminder: YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement are their own separate funding opportunities. Meaning, they have their own unique applications and instructions. When you apply for either, make sure you are applying under the correct funding opportunity and using the correct instructions.
YHDP renewal or replacement projects will not be required to meet the 25 percent match requirement if the applicant is able to demonstrate it has taken reasonable steps to maximize resources available for youth experiencing homelessness.

HUD will evaluate requests with these criteria:

- Can the applicant identify an amount equal to or greater than 25% of project funds that are used in the community to assist youth experiencing homelessness?
- In its description of why matching funds are not available, does the applicant explain why funds going to other projects for youth experiencing homelessness will better serve youth in the community?

If the applicant satisfies the two questions, above, HUD will determine that the applicant has taken reasonable steps to maximize resources available for youth experiencing homelessness.
Special YHDP Activities

• YHDP replacement projects may choose to incorporate special YHDP activities in addition to activities eligible under the CoC program.
• These activities are only available to YHDP replacement projects, not YHDP renewal or regular CoC projects.
Special YHDP Activities

Outlined in Section V.B.4.a.5.b of the 2021 CoC NOFO (p. 38-40)

Examples:

• Lease term of less than one year
• RRH projects can use leasing, sponsor-based rental, and project-based rental assistance
• Habitability instead of HQS
• Payments of up to $500 for host home or kinship care hosts
• Increased security deposit, rental arrears, utility arrears, and damage deposit
• Costs for start-up kits, cleaning supplies, internet, and mobile phone
• Costs associated with transportation and personal vehicles
Special YHDP Activities

• Some special YHDP activities require applicant demonstrate certain criteria before the activity is approved
  • These criteria should be entered on screen 3a, question 8c, on the YHDP Replacement Project Application.

• Examples:
  • Increasing RRH to 36 months
  • Providing supportive services up to 24 months after a project participant exits homelessness
  • Combining rental assistance with leasing or operating funds
  • Payments of up to $1000 under a host home and kinship care model
Other innovative activities may also be allowed!

Applications for these activities must include a narrative in the Project Description and/or Attachments addressing the following criteria:

- The activity is approved by the Youth Action Board
- That activity will be testing or likely to achieve a positive outcome in at least one of the four core outcomes for youth experiencing homelessness (stable housing, permanent connections, education/employment, and wellbeing);
- The activity is cost effective; and
- The activity is not in conflict with fair housing, civil rights, or environmental regulations.
Q: If a YHDP project wishes to replace only some of its current activities, should it submit both a replacement application for the portion of the ARA being replaced and a renewal application for the portion of the application not being replaced or should it submit only a replacement application for the full ARA?

A: A YHDP Replacement project can only replace the full YHDP Renewal. So, if a YHDP Renewal wishes to replace some of its activities, it must do a Replacement of the whole project, not just small pieces.
Q: Can a community replace one YHDP project with two new youth projects?

A: No- YHDP Replacement is a one-to-one replacement, which means that one YHDP Renewal project can only be replaced by one YHDP Replacement project.
Q: Can a recipient submit a YHDP renewal project if they wish to be released from the 25% match requirement?

A: Yes, a recipient can submit a renewal application if the only change to a YHDP project is that it will not provide match (because it can demonstrate that the community has taken reasonable steps to maximize resources available for youth experiencing homelessness).
Resources

- Continuum of Care Program Competition Page
- YHDP Renewal and Replacement Funding Opportunity Page
- YHDP Replacement Project Detailed Instructions
- YHDP Renewal Project Navigational Guide

Questions

Questions regarding the FY 2021 CoC Program Competition process must be submitted to CoCNOFO@hud.gov.

Questions related to e-snaps functionality (e.g., password lockout, access to user’s application account, updating Applicant Profile) must be submitted to e-snaps@hud.gov.
Questions?