



**PRO HOUSING**

Pathways to Removing Obstacles



# PRO Housing NOFO

**Webinar 4: Live FAQ**

# Welcome and Agenda

- Housekeeping

- This webinar will consist of preselected questions from past webinars and live questions from the audience.
- Everyone is muted during the presentation
- Use the Q&A feature for all questions to the presenters
- The chat feature may be used for general comments

- Agenda

- PRO Housing NOFO Live FAQ
  - Preselected FAQs
  - Audience Submitted FAQs
- Closing



# PRO Housing FAQ panelists



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State and Small Cities,  
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Community Planning and  
Development Specialist



# Question 1:

## What are the public participation requirements?

- Before submitting to HUD, you must publish your PRO Housing application or amendment in its entirety for public comment. The streamlined requirements mandate at least one public hearing for the application and for each substantial amendment and require providing a reasonable notice (at least 15 days) and opportunity for public comment and ongoing public access to information about the use of grant funds. For more information, please visit section VI.E.5.a.iii of the NOFO.



## Question 2:

# What are the rating factors for the Pro Housing Competition?

- HUD will score applicants based on their response to five rating factors: Need (35 points), Soundness of Approach (35 points), Capacity (10 points), Leverage (10 points), and Long-term Effect (10 points). You can review the prompts at Section V.A.1 of the NOFO.



# Question 3:

## How do I document my leveraged funding?

- Applicants are encouraged to leverage outside funding and can receive up to 10 points toward their overall application score. Applicants who are leveraging outside funding must adhere to the following requirements:
  - Resources must be firmly committed as of the application deadline date. “Firmly committed” means that the amount of the resource and its dedication to PRO Housing Grant activities is explicit. Endorsements or general letters of support alone will not count as resources and should not be included in the application.
  - Leverage documents must represent valid and accurate commitments of future support. They must detail the dollar amount and any terms of the commitment. They must also indicate that the funding is available to you for the specific activities proposed in your PRO Housing application.
  - Resource commitments must be written and signed by a person authorized to make the commitment and dated.
  - Commitment letters must be on letterhead or they will not be accepted.
  - If the commitment document is not included in the application and submitted before the NOFO deadline, it will not be considered.
  - Staff time of the Applicant and/or Partner(s) (if any) will be an eligible leverage resource if they are firmly committed and quantified.



# Questions From the Audience

Please type your questions using the Q&A box in Webex.  
If your question is not answered during this session, please submit  
the question to **CDBG-PROHousing@hud.gov**





# Question 4:

## What are the Environmental Review Requirements?

- Grantees must comply with environmental justice requirements as set forth in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR parts 50 and 58, which implement the policies of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental requirements.
- Grantees who are States or units of general local government (UGLGs) are considered the Responsible Entity under 24 CFR part 58 and are responsible for completing their own environmental review. The Responsible Entity must conduct an environmental review to determine whether each activity funded under this NOFO is exempt or categorically excluded from NEPA and other environmental review requirements or requires further environmental review.
- For grantees who are not States or units of general local government (UGLGs) or are not recipients of funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 and HUD's regulations at 24 CFR 58.2(a)(5), HUD will perform the environmental review in accordance with 24 CFR part 50.
- While an environmental review does not need to be completed prior to submitting an application, HUD will not release grant funds if the recipient or any other party takes choice limiting actions or commits grant funds (i.e., incurs any costs or expenditures to be paid or reimbursed with such funds) before the recipient submits and HUD approves its Request for Release of Funds (RROF), where such submission is required.
- For more about environmental requirements, see Sections IV.G.2.c and VI.E of the NOFO.





# Question 5:

## What if I'm NOT a priority geography?

- Applicants who are not listed as priority geographies are still invited to apply.
- The Need rating factor offers an additional three (3) points for providing compelling information about your affordable housing needs. This information should demonstrate acute demand for affordable housing in your jurisdiction(s) to households with incomes below 100 percent of the area median income. In your narrative, you are encouraged to provide local knowledge that is not already captured by the above measures. Topics that may indicate acute demand for affordable housing include displacement pressures, housing stock condition, age of housing stock, homelessness, ratio of median home price to area median income, and more.



# Question 6:

## What is a priority geography?

- Under the Need rating factor, applicants will be awarded ten (10) points if their application primarily serves a 'priority geography'. Priority geography means a geography that has an affordable housing need greater than a threshold calculation for one of three measures. The threshold calculation is determined by the need of the 90th-percentile jurisdiction (top 10%) for each factor as computed comparing only jurisdictions with greater than 50,000 population. Threshold calculations are done at the county and place level and applied respectively to county and place applicants. An application can also qualify as a priority geography if it serves a geography that scores in the top 5% of its State for the same three measures. The measures are as follows:
  - Affordable housing not keeping pace, measured as  $(\text{change in population 2019-2009} \div \text{2009 population}) - (\text{change in number of units affordable and available to households at 80\% HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI) 2019-2009} \div \text{units affordable and available at 80\% HAMFI 2009})$ .
  - Insufficient affordable housing, measured as  $\text{number of households at 80\% HAMFI} \div \text{number of affordable and available units for households at 80\% HAMFI}$ .
  - Widespread housing cost burden or substandard housing, measured as  $\text{number of households with housing problems at 100\% HAMFI} \div \text{number of households at 100\% HAMFI}$ . Housing problems is defined as: cost burden of at least 50%, overcrowding, or substandard housing.



# Closing

If your question was not answered during this session, please submit the question to **[CDBG-PROHousing@hud.gov](mailto:CDBG-PROHousing@hud.gov)**

