

# Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Program NOFO-Fiscal Year 2024



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# Training Agenda

1. General FYI NOFO Information
2. Program Overview
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# General FYI NOFO Information

- The NOFO announces the **availability of \$12,746,450** for new incremental Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) assistance under the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative.
- The **application deadline is June 17, 2024.**
- Anticipate awards announced on **September 26, 2024.**
- **Requires collaboration** between a Public Housing Agency (PHA) and Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA).
  - HUD strongly encourages including third-party entities such as a State, local government, philanthropic, non-profit or faith-based organization, or local Continuum of Care (CoC), or CoC recipient it designates to assist with referrals and support services.
- Applicants **do not have to have previous experience** administering the FYI.





# Program Overview

**Under FYI, HCVs may be made available to:**

- **Youth at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age** (have not reached their 25th birthday) who left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in Section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act, and are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.

***As required by statute, a FYI voucher issued to a youth may only be used to provide housing assistance for the youth for a maximum of 36 months **UNLESS** the youth meets the requirements to receive an extension of assistance under the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities (FSHO) amendments.***

***FSHO provides FYI youth an extension of the 36-month time limit for up to an additional 24 months if they meet certain requirements.***



# Policy Priorities



- 1) Expand opportunities under FYI**
- 2) Increase coordination between PHAs, PCWAs, and third-party partners**
- 3) Leverage data to strategically target and prioritize the use of resources for eligible youth**
- 4) Strengthen connections to the HUD Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program or similar programs promoting self-sufficiency**





# Major Changes from Prior NOFO

This section highlights only the major differences from the [prior year FYI Competitive NOFO](#)

## 1) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outside the NOFO publication date requirements.

If your agency [submits an MOU that was executed prior to the NOFO publication date](#) which meets the requirements of this NOFO, your agency is not required to execute a new MOU between the publication date and the application deadline of this NOFO. If such conditions apply, you must also include [an executed certification](#) by the official representative of the PHA and of the PCWA, and other parties (as applicable), [that the MOU is still in effect and is the most recent and current MOU.](#)





# Major Changes from Prior NOFO

This section highlights only the major differences from the [prior year FYI Competitive NOFO](#)

## 2) Rating Factor 3- Previous Coordination content.

If the applicant is submitting an MOU to receive points for Rating Factor 3, the MOU must clearly be identified as such. In other words, if the PHA submits an MOU that was executed before the publication of this NOFO, it must indicate it is supporting documentation of an established agreement. An application that does not follow all the requirements for Rating Factor 3 and includes more than one MOU and does not clearly identify each, will fail the threshold review and will not be considered for further review.





# Major Changes from Prior NOFO

This section highlights only the major differences from the [prior year FYI Competitive NOFO](#)

## 3) Rating Factor 7- Third-Party Partnership content.

HUD will award a total of up to 10 points for this rating factor. Five (5) points where the PHA has partnered with a third-party to address youth homelessness and ensure that FYI-eligible youth are not released into homelessness; and five (5) points for up to two examples where a PHA can certify to having a third-party partnership to provide at least one of the required support services. HUD also added non-profit as a third-party entity. See more details in Rating Factor 7.







# Major Changes from Prior NOFO

This section highlights only the major differences from the [prior year FYI Competitive NOFO](#)

## 4) Rating Factor 8-FYI Utilization Rate content.

Rating Factor 8 FYI Utilization, is now Rating Factor 8. FYI, FUP or HCV Utilization Rate. HUD will award points under this rating factor based on the PHA's Rating Factor certification of the PHA's FYI utilization rate, FUP utilization or overall HCV utilization. A maximum of 15 points will be available for this rating factor.





# Other Submission Requirements-

## Funding Application (Form HUD-52515) Requires Responses to Address:

### 1. Experience Promoting Racial Equity.

- Applicants must include a written narrative about how it has **experience promoting racial equity that demonstrates how the applicant has the experience and the resources to effectively address the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities.**
- PHAs must include their experience promoting racial equity required by Section V.B. of the NOFO in Field H (Leveraging Resources) of the form HUD-52515.
- The applicant may attach up to one additional page, if needed.

*Other Submission Requirements via Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO)*





# Other Submission Requirements-

Funding Application (Form HUD-52515) Requires Responses to Address:

## 2. Advancing Racial Equity.

- Applicants must include a written narrative on **how the applicant has carried out the activities advancing racial equity in a manner consistent with federal nondiscrimination requirements.**
- PHAs must include the discussion required by Section III.F. of this NOFO in Field G (Soundness of Approach) of the form HUD-52515.
- The applicant may attach up to one additional page, if needed.

*Other Submission Requirements via Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO)*





# Other Submission Requirements-

Funding Application (Form HUD-52515) Requires Responses to Address:

## 3. Affirmatively Furthers Fair Housing (AFFH).

- Applicants must include a written narrative describing how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing (AFFH) in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations.
- PHAs must include the AFFH discussion required by Section IV.G. of this NOFO in Field K (Other Information Required in the NOFO or Funding Notice) of the form HUD-52515.
- The applicant may attach up to one additional page, if needed.

*Other Submission Requirements via Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO)*



# Minimum and Maximum Award



- PHAs may apply for **no fewer than 3 vouchers (minimum award)**.
- The **maximum number of vouchers** that a PHA may be awarded will be based upon the size of the PHA's voucher program and the identified need for such **vouchers\*** as reported in the Statement of Need, consistent with the following chart:

PHA voucher program size	Maximum voucher award under this NOFO		
Fewer than 500 HCVs	25 vouchers	or	Identified need, if lower than indicated cap.
500 - 1,999 HCVs	50 vouchers		
2,000 – or more HCVs	75 vouchers		

*\*The number of vouchers projected to be needed to assist FYI-eligible youth over a 12-month period.*

- HUD will be using a maximum award amount of \$1,700,000

*See Section II.C of NOFO for additional information.*





# Eligible Applicants

- **Only PHAs that have an existing Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) with HUD for HCVs are eligible to apply for funding under this NOFO.**
- **Eligible PHAs must have demonstrated a commitment to administer FYI Competitive vouchers,** which shall be verified by an executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the PHA and PCWA.
- **PHAs wishing to share the administration of the program with another PHA may apply jointly. The ACC will be solely with the lead PHA applicant, and all reporting must be submitted by the lead PHA applicant.**
- **HUD strongly encourages adding other important partners, such as a State or local government, non-profit, philanthropic or faith-based organizations, and CoCs, or a CoC recipient it designates, to the partnership.**
- **HUD will only consider funding one application per PHA.** This one application limit applies regardless of whether the PHA is a State or regional PHA.

*See Section III.A. of NOFO for additional information.*





# Threshold Requirements

- Threshold requirements **are not curable, except for** documentation of applicant eligibility, which are listed in Section III.D.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the PHA and PCWA, **and (if applicable)** Third-party, CoC, or designated CoC.
  - Applicants must submit an MOU executed by the official representative of the PHA and of the PCWA described in section III.F. of this NOFO.
  - If the applicant is submitting an MOU to receive points for Rating Factor 3, the MOU must clearly be identified as such as described in section A.3. of this NOFO.
- Rating Factor Certification
  - Applicants seeking rating factor points under the criteria specified in this NOFO must submit a completed Rating Factor Certification described in section IV.B. of this NOFO.
  - The certification must be signed by the Executive Director, Chief Executive Officer, or individual of equivalent position of the PHA.

*See Section III.D. and IV.B. of the NOFO for more details*





# Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- *Review the MOU requirements of the NOFO in its entirety.*
- **A sample MOU** has been included in the Appendix of the NOFO.  
*Applicants may use this as a model in completing their own MOUs.*
- **Must be submitted as a separate attachment**
- The PHA must submit a MOU executed by the official representative of the following:
  1. Public Housing Agency (PHA)
  2. Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA)
  3. If a third-party entity will be a party to the MOU, the responsibilities of the entity must be identified.

**Agency and position titles must be clearly identified.**

*See Section III.F.5 of the NOFO for more details*





# Rating Factors



NOFO Rating Factors		Maximum Points: 100
Rating Factor	Category	Maximum Points
1	Housing Search Assistance in Low-Poverty Census Tracts	14
2	Financial Assistance	20
3	Previous Coordination	10
4	Post-Move Counseling	8
5	Youth Collaboration	5
6	Self-Sufficiency Programs	18
7	Third-Party Partnership	10
8	FYI, FUP or HCV Utilization Rate	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>



# Rating Factor –Points Updated



7	Third-Party Partnership	10
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- Removed 5 point from this category
- No longer 5 points for each example for a commitment to providing the required supportive services. Instead, 5 points are now awarded for only at least one of the required supportive services being provided by a service provider that's a party to the MOU.
- Added a question worth 5 points to encourage interagency collaboration.



# Rating Factor-Points Updated (cont'd)



8	FYI, FUP or HCV Utilization Rate	15
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- Added 5 points to this category.
- Provided clarification on the utilization rate by assigning order and points to which the PHA's utilization will be reviewed/scored.
  - FYI or FUP program then overall HCV utilization rate
    - 15 points for FYI/FUP rate of at least 90% if PHA administers 11 or more vouchers.
    - 10 points for FYI/FUP rate of at least 50% if PHA administers 10 or fewer vouchers.
  - OR
    - 15 points for HCV utilization rate of 95 % or above.
    - 10 points for HCV utilization rate of at least 90%.



# Rating Criteria

- Applicants can obtain up to 100 points.
- The rating criteria points that applicants receive will be used to rank applicants for the purpose of funding.
- **Minimum score** for an application to be considered for funding **is 61 points.**
- To receive points, the rating criteria elements **must be included in the MOU, or other document as specified, and identified in the Rating Factor Certification.**

*Section V.A.1. of the NOFO*





# Rating Criteria (cont'd)

*If applying for rating criteria points under Section V.A.1. of the NOFO, the MOU must describe the following activities:*

- 1) Housing Search Assistance in Low-Poverty Census Tracts
- 2) Financial Assistance
- 3) Previous Coordination
- 4) Post-move Counseling
- 5) Youth Collaboration
- 6) Self-Sufficiency Programs: Current targeted policies or proposed strategies to encourage enrollment of eligible youth
- 7) Third-Party Partnership
- 8) FYI, FUP or HCV Utilization Rate





# Rating Factor 1 (14 Max Points)

## Housing Search Assistance in Low-Poverty Census Tracts

- Assign up to 14 points if housing search assistance will be provided in low-poverty census tracts. Low-poverty census tracts are defined as having a poverty rate of 20 percent or less as determined in the most recent American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.
- **At least one of the following activities must be offered in low-poverty census tracts and identified in the MOU:**
  - Neighborhood tours,
  - Unit viewings, or
  - Landlord introductions

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 1 (cont'd)

## Housing Search Assistance in Low-Poverty Census Tracts

- To receive points, this rating criteria element must be included in the MOU and identified in the Rating Factor Certification.
- The Rating Factor Certification **must provide** responses to the following:
  1. Will housing search assistance in low-poverty census tracts be made available to FYI participants?
  2. Which of the following activity(ies) will be offered in low-poverty census tracts as identified in the MOU? (**Neighborhood tours, unit viewings, or landlord introductions**)
  3. Does the MOU specify which housing search assistance will be provided and the organization/agency providing the assistance?
  4. Where is the information located? Identify the page number(s) in the MOU where this information is included. The page number should reference the location in the MOU that includes the housing search assistance element(s) identified in Question 2.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 2 (20 Max Points)

## Financial Assistance

- Assign up to 20 points if the PHA, PCWA, or third-party entity provides, funds, or otherwise makes available financial assistance resources to assist FYI-eligible youth to lease-up with an FYI Competitive voucher.
- **No points will be provided where the MOU does not cite to at least one of the financial assistance activities.**
- **Financial assistance must include at least one of the following:**
  - Moving cost assistance,
  - Security deposit assistance, or
  - Utility startup (including utility arrears)

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*







# Rating Factor 2 (cont'd)

## Financial Assistance

- To receive points, this rating criteria element must be included in the MOU and identified in the Rating Factor Certification.
- The Rating Factor Certification **must provide** responses to the following:
  1. Will financial resources be made available to assist FYI-eligible youth lease-up with a FYI Competitive voucher?
  2. Which of the following forms of financial assistance will be provided? **(Moving cost assistance, security deposit assistance, or utility start up (including utility arrears)).**
  3. Does the MOU specify which assistance will be provided and the organization/agency providing the financial assistance?
  4. Where is the information located? Identify the page number(s) in the MOU where this information is included. The page number should reference the location in the MOU that includes the financial assistance element(s) identified in Question 2.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 3 (10 Max Points)

## Previous Coordination

**Assign 10 points** if the PHA and/or PCWA can demonstrate recent cross-program coordination with a local CoC, or a CoC recipient it designates.

There **must be evidence** of an established agreement.

An established agreement can be in the form of an executed MOU, signed certification from the PHA and/or PCWA and a local CoC, or PHA or PCWA's policy document that describes the referral process.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 3 (cont'd)

## Previous Coordination

To receive 10 points, evidence of an established agreement between the PHA or PCWA and the CoC or a CoC recipient it designates to receive referrals from the local coordinated entry system.

- The Rating Factor Certification **must provide** responses to the following:
  1. Can the PHA and/or PCWA demonstrate recent cross-program coordination with a local CoC?
  2. Is recent cross-program coordination in the form of an established agreement between the PHA or PCWA, and the CoC to receive referrals from the local coordinated entry system?
  3. Where is the information located? Identify the document and page number(s) where this information is included.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 4 (8 Max Points)

## Post-move Counseling

Assign up to 8 points if the PHA, PCWA, or third-party entity, provides, funds, or otherwise makes available post-move counseling to FYI-eligible youth.

Post-move counseling includes:

- 1) Subsequent-move counseling if the youth decides to move a second time, or
- 2) Landlord-tenant mediation.

Each activity is worth 4 points.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 4 (cont'd)

## Post-move Counseling

To receive points, this rating criteria element must be included in the MOU and identified in the Rating Factor Certification.

- The Rating Factor Certification **must provide** responses to the following:
  1. Will post-move counseling be made available to FYI-eligible youth?
  2. Which of the following forms of post-move counseling will be provided?
  3. Does the MOU specify which type of post-move counseling assistance that will be provided and the organization/agency providing the assistance?

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 4 (cont'd)

## Post-move Counseling

- The Rating Factor Certification **must provide** responses to the following:
  4. Where is the information located? Identify the page number(s) in the MOU where this information is included. The page number should reference the location in the MOU that includes the post-move counseling element(s) identified in Question 2. No points will be provided where the MOU does not cite to the post-move counseling. For example, an MOU that says that youth will receive post-move counseling does not meet the requirement. The MOU would have to say the type of post-move counseling that will be provided and identify who will be providing the post-move counseling.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 5 (5 Max Points)

## Youth Collaboration

**Assign up to 5 points if youth with lived experiences** (youth that are homeless or formerly homeless and are in foster care or left foster care) **will be integrated into the rollout and/or ongoing administration of the FYI Competitive program.**

Youth voice is a crucial component to addressing and ending youth homelessness.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 5 (cont'd)

## Youth Collaboration

**To receive points under this category** the applicant must demonstrate how youth with lived experience will be integrated into the rollout and/or ongoing administration of the FYI Competitive program.

***Applicants must provide brief (less than one half of a page) response to the following question:***

In which activities will youth with lived experience participate in to further their integration in the rollout and/or ongoing administration of the FYI Competitive program?

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*







# Rating Factor 6 (18 Max Points)

## Self-sufficiency Programs

**Assign up to 18 points if the PHA administers the HUD Family Self-Sufficiency program, or similar program promoting self-sufficiency, that is active at the time of application.**

*A similar program promoting self-sufficiency refers to a self-sufficiency program that promotes the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under the HCV program with public and private resources to enable participating families to increase earned income and financial literacy, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, and make progress toward economic independence and self-sufficiency.*

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 6 (cont'd)

## Self-sufficiency Programs

To receive points, this rating criteria element must include the required documentation and identified in the Rating Factor Certification.

- The Rating Factor Certification **must provide** responses to the following:
  1. Does the PHA have current targeted policies or proposed strategies to encourage enrollment of FYI-eligible youth in a Family Self-Sufficiency program or similar program?
  2. Are the targeted policies existing, or proposed?
  3. If proposed, is the PHA certifying to adoption of the targeted strategies within three months of being awarded vouchers under the NOFO?
  4. Identify the document (e.g., policy excerpt, pamphlet, policy proposal description, etc.) and page number(s) where this information is included. This should identify the specific policies to encourage enrollment of eligible youth.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 7 (10 Max Points)

## Third-Party Partnership

**Assign up to 10 points** where the PHA has partnered with a third-party, such as a State, local, philanthropic, non-profit or faith-based organization, or local Continuum of Care, or CoC recipient it designates has committed to:

- (1) Participate in community planning to address youth homelessness in its jurisdiction and ensure that FYI-eligible youths are not released into homelessness (5 points), and
- (2) Provide at least one of the required supportive services located in Section III.F.5. of the NOFO and will be a party to the MOU (5 points). The supportive services must be provided for a period of 36 months.

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 7 (cont'd)

## Third-Party Partnership

To receive 10 points for third-party partnership, the Rating Factor Certification must include a brief (half of a page and no more than one page) response to the following:

- (1) Has your PHA participated in a community planning process to address youth homelessness in its jurisdiction and ensure that FYI-eligible youths are not released into homelessness? **The page limit refers to your agency's response to question 1.**
- (2) Did a third-party, such as a State, local, government, philanthropic, non-profit or faith-based organization, or local Continuum of Care, or CoC recipient it designates commit to providing at least one of the required supportive services for 36 months (Section III.F.5.) and will be a party to the MOU?
- (3) Identify the State, local, philanthropic, non-profit or faith-based organization, or local Continuum of Care, or CoC recipient it designates that has committed to provide at least one of the required supportive services for 36 months. Name the supportive service.
- (4) On what page of the MOU is this information included? (The organization, supportive service to be provided, and duration of the supportive service must be identified in the MOU.)

*See V.A.1. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Rating Factor 8 (15 Max Points)

## FYI, FUP or HCV Utilization Rate

**Assign 15 points** if the PHA certifies that it administers 11 or more FYI and/or FUP vouchers and has an FYI and/or FUP utilization of at least 90 percent, as verified by HUD review of Voucher Management System (VMS) data, *as of November 2023, or as of the most recent comprehensive set of validated data available to HUD at the time of HUD's review of the application, whichever is higher.*

**OR Assign 15 points** if PHA certifies that it administers 10 or fewer FYI and/or FUP vouchers and has an FYI and/or FUP utilization rate of at least 50 percent, as verified by HUD review of VMS, as of November 2023, or , *as of November 2023, or as of the most recent comprehensive set of validated data available to HUD at the time of HUD's review of the application, whichever is higher.*

**OR**

If the PHA does not currently administer either an FYI or FUP program, **assign 15 points** if the PHA certifies that it has an HCV utilization of at least 95 percent and above, as verified by HUD review of VMS data, as of November 2023, or *as of the most recent comprehensive set of validated data available to HUD at the time of HUD's review of the application, whichever is higher.*

**OR Assign 10 points** if the PHA certifies that it as an HCV utilization of at least 90 percent, as verified by HUD review of VMS data, *as of November 2023, or as of the most recent comprehensive set of validated data available to HUD at the time of HUD's review of the application, whichever is higher.*

*See the FYI Competitive NOFO's Appendix section for more details.*





# Review and Selection Process

- Applications that meet the threshold requirements will be scored based on the rating factors.
- Scores will be used to rank applications.
- The minimum score for an application to be considered for funding is 61 points. *This does not automatically mean that a PHA that scores 61 points or greater will be funded.*
- Funds will be allocated among applicants based on ranked order.
- Applicants with a higher ranking will be awarded funds ahead of applicants with a lower ranking.
- Applicants with a lower ranking may be funded at less than need and or less than maximum award (including no award).

*See Section V.B. of the NOFO for more details.*





# Obtaining an Application Package

- **Application Instructions** and **Application Package** must be downloaded from Grants.gov.



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# Resources

- FYI Webpage: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/fyi](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fyi)
- Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities (FSHO) amendments: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/family#Fostering%20Stable%20Housing%20Opportunities%20\(FSHO\)%20Amendments](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/family#Fostering%20Stable%20Housing%20Opportunities%20(FSHO)%20Amendments)
- Grants.gov: <https://grants.gov/>
- FYI Competitive FAQs document is forthcoming and will be located on the [FYI Webpage](#). This document will be updated frequently as questions come into the [FYICompetitive@hud.gov](mailto:FYICompetitive@hud.gov) mailbox.

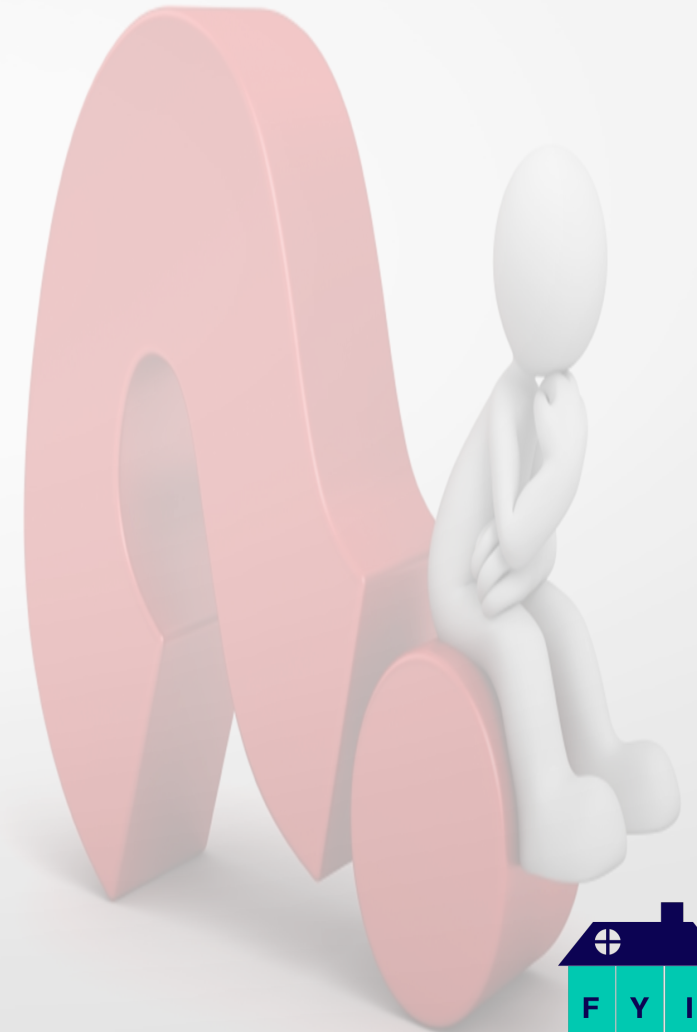






# Questions?

- General questions regarding Grants.gov should be sent to [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).
- Questions regarding the FYI Competitive NOFO content should be directed to [FYICompetitive@hud.gov](mailto:FYICompetitive@hud.gov).





# Thank You!

