



NOTE: The NOFO is the controlling document for purposes of this funding opportunity. **PLEASE READ IT! – MOST OF THESE QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED IN THE NOFO.**In accordance with the HUD Reform Act, we cannot provide individual responses to applicant-specific questions outside of our formal application review process.

#### Contents

1.	Technical Correction	
2.	What's NEW?	4
3.	Eligibility	6
4.	Application	10
5.	Positions	15
6.	Awards	18

### 1. Technical Correction

**Q.1a:** Why is HUD issuing a Technical Correction (on August 6, 2021) to the Family Self-Sufficiency Fiscal Year 2021 Renewal NOFO ("the NOFO")?

**A.1a:** In response to applicant questions and feedback, on August 6, 2021, we made the following Technical Corrections to the NOFO:

- Minor formatting and language edits for clarity and consistency
- Clarified the grace year for COVID-19
- Clarified Program Definitions for:
  - Baseline Awards
  - o Funding Priority Categories
  - o Maximum Awards
  - o Maximum Positions

We also made the following Technical Corrections to Appendix C:

- Updated header for "Greatest FSS Award in the Renewal Period"
- Highlighted low PIC counts in yellow to more clearly indicate that it is not a bar to funding because of the grace year for COVID-19
- Removed ineligible FY17 renewal applicants





Q.1b: Why has the NOFO application deadline changed?

**A.1b:** As a result of the Technical Corrections (on August 6, 2021), the application deadline is being moved back to <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>September 7, 2021</u>, to allow a full 30 calendar days for applications under the corrected NOFO.

**Q.1c:** If I have already submitted an application before the Technical Correction (on August 6, 2021), do I need to apply again?

**A.1c:** No. This Technical Correction does NOT change the application process – it only clarifies the NOFO. Therefore, you do not *need* to submit a new application, but you *may* do so if you feel that there is newly clarified information in the NOFO that would change your application. We will review your last submitted and validated application, according to <u>Section IV.D.1</u> of the NOFO, "Amending or Resubmitting an Application:"

"Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised application containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline.

If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline."

Q.1d: Has the Applicant Webinar been updated with the Technical Corrections?

**A.1d:** We have not updated the Applicant Webinar, but we have updated the Webinar Slides (# 8, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 26, 28 & 44). Please note, as always, that the last published version of the NOFO is the controlling document.

You can access the latest NOFO with the Technical Corrections, updated Webinar Slides, and Applicant Webinar on <u>HUD's FY21 FSS Funds Available</u> page, here:

https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/fundingopps/fy21\_fss

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



**Q.1e:** I have a question that isn't answered here, or I think I may have found an error in the NOFO. How should I let you know, and what should I do?

**A.1e:** You are welcome to send your questions or concerns to <a href="FSS@hud.gov">FSS@hud.gov</a>, and we recommend doing so at least a week before the application deadline.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



#### 2. What's NEW?

Q.2a: What major changes are in this year's FSS Renewal NOFO?

A.2a: Please read the entire NOFO for complete details! Highlights of major changes from the previous NOFO are in <u>Section I.A.2</u>, "Changes from Previous NOFO." Some of these major changes include:

#### Grace year due to the impacts of COVID-19

- FOR THIS FY21 NOFO ONLY ALL Public Housing Agencies ("PHAs") that were funded in FY20, FY19, or FY18 NOFOs are eligible for funding in this FY21 NOFO, even if you didn't meet the minimum number of participants requirement
  - In other words, if your PIC Data dropped below the minimum number of FSS participants requirement (15 for part-time, 25 for full-time, etc.), all else being equal, you would still be eligible for funding in this FY21 NOFO
- o We will not use CY 2020 PIC Data to limit your Baseline Positions

#### • Maximum Positions

- Starting in this FY21 Renewal NOFO, we are using a 3-year lookback period for determining your Maximum Positions and will use the highest number of Baseline Positions ("cap on number of positions" in previous NOFOs) in the Renewal Period to determine your Maximum Positions for this NOFO
  - For example, if you were eligible for 3 positions in FYs 2018 and 2019, then dropped to 2 positions in FY 2020, you now would be eligible for 3 positions in FY 2021
- In addition, all part-time positions above the first position will be rounded up to the next highest number of full-time positions to determine your Maximum Positions (except where you submitted a Part-time Loss Acknowledgment letter.)
  - Using the same example as above, if your Baseline
    Positions in FY 2021 are 1.5, your Maximum Positions
    would automatically be 2 full-time positions if you are
    Category 2 Eligible this year, unless you submit a PartTime Loss Acknowledgement to request only 1 full-time
    position. Funding 1.5 positions is no longer an option.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



(A.2a: Continued)

#### • Salary Comparability Information

- In previous NOFOs, applicants were asked to submit salary comparability information with their application. Under this NOFO, salary comparability information is NOT required.
- Instead, salary information will be taken from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) locality pay data, with 40 percent added for fringe benefits.

### • Funding Priority Categories

- Category 1 will be to fund your Greatest FSS Award in the Renewal Period (last 3 years), up to your Amount Requested
- Category 2, if eligible, will be to fund your Maximum Positions (unless you submit a Part-Time Loss Acknowledgement) at your Category 1 per-position rate, up to your Amount Requested
- Category 3 will be to fund up to the lesser of your Maximum
   Award (or approved Exception Request) and Amount Requested

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



### 3. Eligibility

- **Q.3a:** Is there an opportunity for new applicants to be funded under this NOFO? Are previously unfunded FSS programs (or programs that were funded more than 3 years ago) eligible for new funding?
- **A.3a:** No, this is a Renewal NOFO, so we are not accepting new grantees. Eligibility Requirements are described in <u>Section III.F.3</u>. We will evaluate all submitted applications to determine eligibility for funding in the NOFO, as described in <u>Section III.B.2</u>, "New Applicants:"

"Applicants that have not been funded in FY 2018, FY 2019, and/or FY 2020 NOFO competitions are ineligible for funding under this NOFO."

Please register with Grants.gov to get updates on publications of NOFOs.

- Q.3b: What if my PHA is not in Appendix C, but I believe it should be eligible?
- **A.3b:** You may submit a "Request for Review of Eligibility," recommended at least one week prior to the application deadline, as described in <u>Section III.A.3</u>:

"If you are not listed in Appendix C, but believe you meet the eligibility criteria or are listed incorrectly, you must submit a Request for Review of Eligibility via email to <a href="fss@hud.gov">fss@hud.gov</a>.

The subject line should be "2021 Review of FSS Eligibility – [PHA Name and Number]." HUD cannot guarantee the timely review of such requests if submitted less than one week prior to the application deadline."

- Q.3c: Why is the Target Period listed as January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020?
- **A.3c:** The Target Period is the timeframe used to determine the Number of FSS Program Participants, as defined in <u>Section I.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions."

Please note that this is *different* than the Period of Performance, which for this NOFO is "January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022."

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



Q.3d: Do I need to serve Public Housing residents to be eligible for funding?

**A.3d:** Not necessarily. There are two types of housing assistance that are eligible under the NOFO: Public Housing and Housing Choice Vouchers. You do not need to have both – either one is sufficient. See <u>Section I.A.1.a</u>, "Overview:"

"FSS provides grants to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to support the salaries of FSS Program Coordinators who assist participating families receiving housing assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV/PBV) and Public Housing (PH) programs."

Former Public Housing residents that were in FSS prior to a RAD conversion to PBRA can also continue to be served by grant funds as well. Please see <u>Section I.A.4</u> definition of Eligible Families and <u>Section III.F.7.i</u>, "Rental Assistance Demonstration"

**Q.3e:** My PHA is planning to reposition some or all of our Public Housing to Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA). Am I still eligible to apply?

**A.3e:** Generally, yes. See <u>Section III.F.7.i</u>, "Rental Assistance Demonstration" (RAD) for more information on RAD/PBRA and FSS eligibility in the NOFO:

"PBRA Conversions: PHAs that are converting or have converted public housing units to PBRA assistance through RAD are allowed to use FSS funds made available under this NOFO to serve families enrolled in FSS prior to RAD conversion, until such participants exit the FSS program.

PBRA owners that are not PHAs may implement their own FSS programs but are not eligible to compete for funding under this NOFO.

Please note that PHAs that convert all of their ACC units to PBRA (and thus now only administer a PBRA program) may continue to use FSS funding that was granted prior to the RAD conversion to continue serving residents who were enrolled in FSS prior to the RAD conversion."

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



Q.3f: Do I need to complete Mandatory FSS Training to be eligible?

**A.3f:** At least one individual from your PHA must have done so before you can access any awarded grant funds, according to <a href="Section III.A.2">Section III.A.2</a>, "Mandatory FSS Training:"

"All PHAs must complete HUD's Online Training and Guidebook that provides guidance on how to develop and administer a successful FSS program.

While we recommend that all FSS Coordinators take the training and familiarize themselves with the Guidebook, the requirement is that at least one person from each PHA must complete the FSS online training and submit the 'get credit' form. HUD will pull a list of all individuals that have received credit for completing the training from HUD Exchange at the time of grant award. If you are not on the list generated at the time of grant award, all FSS grant funds for your PHA will be held by your Field Office until proof of course completion is submitted to your Field Office.

If you have completed the training prior to the FY2021 awards, you have satisfied the requirement under this FY2021 NOFO. You are not required to submit documentation of compliance with this NOFO application."

**Q.3g:** I am a HUD-assisted resident (Public Housing or a Housing Choice Voucher recipient). Can I enroll in the FSS program through this NOFO?

**A.3g:** No. This NOFO is only for PHAs, as described in Section I.A.1.a, "Overview:"

"FSS provides grants to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to support the salaries of FSS Program Coordinators who assist participating families receiving housing assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV/PBV) and Public Housing (PH) programs."

If you are a resident of Public Housing or have a Housing Choice Voucher, you can ask your PHA to see if they offer the FSS program and to enroll if they do. You can find contact information for your local PHA here: <a href="https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/public\_indian\_housing/pha/contacts">https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/public\_indian\_housing/pha/contacts</a>.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



### New FAQ #2

Q.3h: Is there additional documentation required for Joint Applicants?

A.3h: There is no additional documentation required for joint applicants. Please see the instructions in the NOFO on filling out the SF-424 and including the names and PHA numbers of your joint applicants on line 15.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



### 4. Application

Q.4a: What forms are required as part of my NOFO application?

**A.4a:** Two forms are required for ALL applicants, while others are only required for SOME applicants, depending on your situation. You can find the full list of forms, assurances, and certifications in <u>Section IV.B.1</u>.

Here is a summary of required, optional, and non-accepted forms:

### ALL Applicants

- 1. SF-424: Application for Federal Assistance
- 2. HUD-2880: HUD Applicant Recipient Disclosure Report
  - The answer to Part 1: Thresholds Determination, Question 1 is: "YES"
  - The answer to Part 1: Thresholds Determination, Question 2 is "NO," UNLESS you are applying for more than \$200,000 in THIS APPLICATION, in which case it is "YES"
    - If you answer "NO," you do not need to fill out the rest of the form, but you still must send it in
    - If you answer "YES," to Question 2, fill in the rest of the form, even if it's N/A, and send it in

#### NEW FAQ #2

- o Q. I can't fill out the top section in the HUD-2880
  - A. Reminder fill out the SF-424 first. It will auto-populate some of the other fields.
- Q. On the 2880, I'm required to fill in Parts II and III, but I don't have any Interested Parties and the form requires a social security number so I can't enter N/A. What should I do?
  - A. Enter 000-00-0000 or similar.

#### SOME Applicants

- SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)
- Exception Request letter
  - ONLY if requesting an exception
  - use the Attachments form that can be found with the Optional Forms in your Grants.gov application

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



- Part-Time Loss Acknowledgement letter
  - ONLY if you are Category 2 Eligible and do NOT want an automatic increase to the next full-time position
  - use the Attachments form that can be found with the Optional Forms in your Grants.gov application
- Documentation to Confirm the Correct # in PIC (Section IV.B.1.a)
  - ONLY required if your PHA is Moving to Work (MTW)
  - May be submitted if your PHA serves Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) families affected by the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)
- HUD-2993: Acknowledgment of Application Receipt
  - Only if you have a waiver of electronic submission AND want receipt confirmation for your hard-copy (paper) application

#### NO Applicants

- HUD-52651: FSS Program Coordinator Funding
  - NOT required, available, or accepted under the FY21 NOFO
- FAQ #2
- Q. How do I send my information on Indirect Cost Rates?
   A. Indirect Cost rates do not apply in this NOFO, as the only eligible activities are salary and fringe.
- Q. The NOFO says, "Funds awarded to PHAs under this NOFO will be used to pay the salary and fringe benefits [defined at 2 CFR 200.431(c) Compensation fringe benefits] of full-time and part-time FSS program coordinators. You may include a training stipend in your calculation of "fringe benefits." Can we include travel as part of the training stipend?
   A. There's no requirement in the NOFO that you submit the make-up of your fringe benefits and/or what the "travel stipend" entails.

Q.4b: What needs to be in an Exception Request letter?

**A.4b:** The requirements for an Exception Request letter are stated in <u>Section I.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions." It should be "signed by your PHA's Executive Director explaining the need for a higher funding amount."

As a reminder, you CANNOT submit this to us via email. You MUST submit an Exception Request using the Attachments form that can be found with the Optional Forms in your Grants.gov application.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



**Q.4c:** What needs to be in a Part-Time Loss Acknowledgement letter?

**A.4c:** The requirements for a Part-Time Loss Acknowledgment letter are described in <u>Section I.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions." It should include a signed attestation from your Executive Director that acknowledges you will be funded for FEWER positions (rounded DOWN to the nearest full-time position) than you are eligible for.

As a reminder, you CANNOT submit this to us via email. You MUST submit an Exception Request using the Attachments form that can be found with the Optional Forms in your Grants.gov application.





Q.4d: Does my Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) have to be my PHA Executive Director?

**A.4d:** Not necessarily. The AOR should be your PHA Executive Director or some other designated PHA official authorized to make contractual agreements on behalf of your agency, including submitting applications via Grants.gov. The AOR is defined in <a href="Section I.A.3.a">Section I.A.3.a</a>, "Standard Definitions" as:

"The person authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Biz point of contact in the System for Award Management. The AOR is listed in item 21 on the SF- 424."

The AOR should review and sign the SF-424 before it is submitted, as described in <u>Section IV.B.2.b</u>, "SF-424:"

"Question 21 – The Authorized Representative listed on the SF-424 of your application should be the Executive Director of your organization, or some other designated official of your organization who is authorized to make contractual agreements on behalf of your agency. This person should review and sign the grant application before it is submitted. Any changes to the Authorized Representative will delay award processing."

Q.4e: How do I amend my already submitted application?

**A.4e:** You can submit a new application before the application deadline, and we will only evaluate your last submitted application, according to <u>Section IV.D.1</u>, "Amending or Resubmitting an Application:"

"Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised application containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline. If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline."

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



#### New FAQ#2

- Q.4f. The NOFO says that we need to send in the SF-424B (for non-construction projects). I can't find it in the application package on Grants.gov.
- A.4f. We will be including the SF-424B with the Grant Agreement upon award.
- Q.4g. I can't click the "Apply" button on Grants.gov
- A.4g. You must log into Grants.gov in order for the "Apply" button to be activated. If you are having trouble with your Grants.gov log-in or password, please contact help@grants.gov.
- Q.4h. I need to change my AOR
- A.4h. The applicant must update their SAM.gov and grants.gov registration to change the AOR. HUD does not have the ability or access to update these sites with the new AOR. If the application has already been submitted, then a NEW application must be submitted with the new AOR information before the deadline.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



#### 5. Positions

Q.5a: How are Maximum Positions calculated?

**A.5a:** Program Definitions can be found in <u>Section I.A.4</u>, including Maximum Positions:

"Maximum Positions are Baseline Positions, with all part-time positions above one position rounded up to the next full-time position (for example, 1.5 positions will round up to 2 positions, but 0.5 positions will stay at 0.5 positions).

You will be funded for your Maximum Positions unless you request fewer by submitting:

- An Exception Request for fewer full-time positions (you can only request fewer full-time positions with an Exception Request)
- A Part-Time Loss Acknowledgement

Note: We only will fund full-time positions above one position (no 1.5, 2.5 etc.). This means that if you send a Part-Time Loss Acknowledgement letter, you are acknowledging that you will receive the lower full position AND that you will only be funded for that full position(s) and not the additional part-time position and that your Baseline Award will be adjusted down accordingly.

We will not be funding more positions than your Maximum Positions this year."





- **Q.5b:** Is HUD funding new full-time positions in this NOFO? How can I request additional positions beyond what's in Appendix C?
- **A.5b:** In this renewal NOFO, HUD is funding renewal positions (see <u>FAQ A5a</u> above), with new full-time positions only available for Category 2 Eligible applicants, in accordance with <u>Section III.B.3</u>, "Funding Priority Categories:"

"Funding Category 2 – Increases from Part-time to Full-time Positions. In the second round of funding, we will fund Category 2 Eligible applicants for your Maximum Positions (except where a submitted Part-time Loss Acknowledgment letter is approved) based on the per-Baseline Position funding rate from Category 1."

If you are not Category 2 Eligible (see <u>NOFO Appendix C</u>), there is no way to request new, additional part-time or full-time positions in this NOFO.

- **Q.5c:** Do I need to submit Documentation to Confirm the Correct Number of FSS Program Participants During the Target Period?
- A.5c: As described in <u>Section IV.B.1.a</u>, "HUD will no longer accept documentation to correct the number of FSS families as shown in the PIC report in Appendix C. However, applicants in the limited cases specified below must continue to submit documentation of the number of FSS program participants so that HUD may accurately determine funding eligibility.
  - An MTW PHA
  - A PHA that serves RAD-PBRA families in your FSS program, AND:
    - (1) believes that these families are not reflected in the PIC report
    - (2) is requesting more positions than the PIC data support (as shown in the PIC report under the "number of FSS coordinators supported by PIC data" column)

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



**Q.5d:** What if I do not believe that the information in Appendix C is accurate? Should I be concerned if our PIC Data is highlighted in yellow?

**A.5d:** If you believe that there is an error in Appendix C, you may let us know at FSS@hud.gov.

You should note that under <u>Section IV.B.1.a</u>, "Documentation to Confirm the Correct Number of FSS Program Participants During the Target Period: HUD will no longer accept documentation to correct the number of FSS families as shown in the PIC report in Appendix C."

However, under <u>Section I.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions," this would not affect your "Number of FSS Service Coordinators Supported by PIC Data," since "HUD will not use 2020 PIC counts to limit your Baseline Positions."

Even though you cannot and do not need to submit a correction to your PIC Data, we have highlighted in yellow PIC Data that otherwise would be ineligible for funding without the grace year for COVID-19.

If your PHA's PIC Data is highlighted in yellow, please take this opportunity to reference PIH Notice 2016-8 and work with your PIC Coach to ensure that your FSS reporting in PIC is correct for the future.

Link to PIH Notice 2016-8, located under the header for PIC Reporting: <a href="https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/public\_indian\_housing/programs/hc\_v/fss">https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/public\_indian\_housing/programs/hc\_v/fss</a>

Link to PIC Coaches, including a current list with contact information: <a href="https://www.hud.gov/program">https://www.hud.gov/program</a> offices/public indian housing/systems/pic/help

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



#### 6. Awards

**Q.6a:** How are my Baseline Award and Maximum Award determined? Under what circumstances would I need to submit an Exception Request?

A.6a: As outlined in Section 1.A.4, "Program Definitions:"

- 1. Your **Baseline Award** is the higher of your:
  - Greatest FSS Award in the Renewal Period (last 3 years)
  - **Maximum Positions** (unless you submit a Part-Time Loss Acknowledgement) multiplied by **Baseline per Position**
- 2. Your Maximum Award is your Baseline Award + 10%
  - This is NOT listed in Appendix C, so you MUST do the math yourself if you want to request up to your Maximum Award
- 3. If you want more than your **Maximum Award**, you MUST submit an **Exception Request** 
  - You may request more *funding* but NOT more *positions*

For instance, consider the following EXAMPLE DATA from Appendix C (please see Appendix C to find and use your PHAs actual data):

PHA Name	Greatest FSS Award in the Renewal Period	Maximum Positions	Baseline per Position	Baseline Award
PHA X	\$100,000	2	\$60,000	\$120,000

- 1. The **Baseline Award** (\$120,000) is the higher of:
  - \$100,000: The Greatest FSS Award in the Renewal Period
  - \$120,000: Maximum Positions (2) x Baseline per Position (\$60,000)
- 2. The **Maximum Award** (\$132,000) is the **Baseline Award** (\$120,000) + 10% (\$12,000)
- 3. In this example, an **Exception Request** would be needed to request more than \$132,000 for NO MORE than the 2 **Maximum Positions**

NOTE: Please consider your actual FSS funding needs, which may be LOWER than your Baseline Award, as any unexpended funds will be recaptured if not used during the Period of Performance (CY 2022).





**Q.6b:** What is the basis for my Baseline per Position in Appendix C? Does the Baseline Award include fringe benefits, or do I need to add it in? What if I think there is an error with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data?

**A.6b:** Your Baseline per Position is based on BLS data for your zip code (or state, as appropriate) from your last application on record, with 40 percent added for fringe benefits, as defined in <u>Section 1.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions:"

"The Baseline Funding Per Position is based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<a href="www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Wages/find-salary.aspx">www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Wages/find-salary.aspx</a>) for the median salary for the job title 'Social Worker: Other' in your zip code (the zip code provided in your last application on record, except for state-wide PHAs, which will use the state level data), with a 40 percent allowance added for fringe benefits. This amount (salary AND fringe) is presented in Appendix C in the column titled 'Baseline per Position.'"

If you believe that there is an error in Appendix C, you may let us know at FSS@hud.gov.

**Q.6c:** Why is my Baseline Award higher than my Baseline per Position? Which Baseline is used for determining my Maximum Award?

**A.6c:** Your Baseline per Position (multiplied by your Maximum Positions) determines your Baseline Award, which could be higher based on your Greatest FSS Award in the Renewal Period, as described in <u>Section 1.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions:"

"Baseline Award. The Baseline Award is the higher of:

- 1. The greatest FSS award you received during the Renewal Period
- 2. Your Maximum Positions multiplied by your Baseline per Position"





**Q.6d:** Do I have to request my Baseline Award? What if my Baseline Award is more than is needed based on my local pay scales? What happens if my Amount Requested is more than what I actually use in CY 2022?

**A.6d:** No, your Amount Requested does not need to be the same as your Baseline Award. You can request any amount up to your Maximum Award without submitting an Exception Request.

You may already be fully funded for your positions at the level of your last NOFO award. You may, however, have greater needs or higher pay scales than could be fully funded from past NOFO awards. **Therefore, PLEASE consider your actual FSS funding needs for your Amount Requested.** 

You should note that under <u>Section I.A.2</u>, "the period of performance for this NOFO is January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022," and "any unexpended funds will be recaptured and used to make future grants."

**Q.6e:** Can I request funding above my Baseline Award? Do I need to submit additional documentation to request more than my Maximum Award?

**A.6e:** Yes, your Amount Requested may be greater than your Maximum Award, but you must submit – and we must approve – an Exception Request, as described in <u>Section 1.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions:"

"Please Note: You do NOT need an Exception Request to request above the Baseline Award unless you are requesting more than your Maximum Award. If you would like to be funded for MORE than the Maximum Award, you must include with your application a letter signed by your PHA's Executive Director explaining the need for a higher funding amount. See Section IV.B. for information on how to submit an Exception Request."

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



Q.6f: Does an Exception Request change my Baseline or Maximum Award?

**A.6f:** No, submitting an Exception Request (see <u>FAQ A6b</u> above) does not change your Baseline or Maximum Awards, which are defined in <u>Section 1.A.4</u>, "Program Definitions."

Regardless of whether we approve your Exception Request, we will first fund your Amount Requested up to your Maximum Award.

We will only fund Exception Requests, to the extent they are approved, after all applicants are funded up to their Maximum Awards first.

August 13, 2021 (updated August 26, 2021)



#### FAQ #2 – August 26, 2021

### Additional Questions are also inserted in appropriate sections above

Q.3h: Is there additional documentation required for Joint Applicants?

A.3h: There is no additional documentation required for joint applicants. Please see the instructions in the NOFO on filling out the SF-424 and including the names and PHA numbers of your joint applicants on line 15.

#### Addition to Q/A.4a.

Q. I can't fill out the top section in the HUD-2880

A. Reminder – fill out the SF-424 first. It will auto-populate some of the other fields.

Q. On the 2880, I'm required to fill in Parts II and III, but I don't have any Interested Parties and the form requires a social security number so I can't enter N/A. What should I do?

A. Enter 000-00-0000 or similar.

Q. How do I send my information on Indirect Cost Rates?

A. Indirect Cost rates do not apply in this NOFO, as the only eligible activities are salary and fringe.

Q. The NOFO says, "Funds awarded to PHAs under this NOFO will be used to pay the salary and fringe benefits [defined at 2 CFR 200.431(c) Compensation - fringe benefits] of full-time and part-time FSS program coordinators. You may include a training stipend in your calculation of "fringe benefits." Can we include travel as part of the training stipend?

A. There's no requirement in the NOFO that you submit the make-up of your fringe benefits and/or what the "travel stipend" entails.

Q.4f. The NOFO says that we need to send in the SF-424B (for non-construction projects). I can't find it in the application package on Grants.gov.

A.4f. We will be including the SF-424B with the Grant Agreement upon award.

Q.4g. I can't click the "Apply" button on Grants.gov

A.4g. You must log into Grants.gov in order for the "Apply" button to be activated. If you are having trouble with your Grants.gov log-in or password, please contact <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>.

Q.4h. I need to change my AOR

A.4h. The applicant must update their SAM.gov and grants.gov registration to change the AOR. HUD does not have the ability or access to update these sites with the new AOR. If the application has already been submitted, then a NEW application must be submitted with the new AOR information before the deadline.

Field Code Changed