



Northern Colorado Continuum of Care
2022 CoC Program Competition
Project Rating, Ranking, and Reallocation
Policies and Procedures

Project Rating Procedures

New and renewal projects will complete a project rating application to be reviewed and scored by the Project Rating and Ranking Committee. Included in the application are threshold criteria related to compliance of HUD and CoC guidelines and rules, including 24 CFR 578 and the 2021 NOFO. Applications scoring "0" on any threshold criteria will be brought forth to the Governing Board. In extraordinary circumstances and only if the agency can confirm they will be able to meet the threshold criteria, the Governing Board may approve the inclusion of the application in this year's competition. If not approved, the application/project will not be included in this year's competition and funds will be reallocated to a different project. The rating application also collects information related to how the project does/will align with NoCO CoC priorities.

Separate rating applications have been developed for new and renewal projects based on project type. Data included in renewal project rating applications is pulled largely from the project's most recent APR.

The Project Rating and Ranking Committee is composed of 6-10 members of the NoCO CoC. Three committee members will review and score each rating application. Committee members may not review or score any project application affiliated with their agency or from which they stand to financially benefit. The NoCO CoC Director and the HMIS Lead Administrator will review and score all applications related to CoC and CAHPS engagement and HMIS data, respectively, but will not score other sections of the applications.

Project Applications will be scored independently by the assigned Committee member, with the opportunity to review as an entire Committee to ensure consistency in the scoring process. Final scores will be determined by averaging the three scores of each reviewer in each section.

The CoC Planning Grant is not scored as the project is not included in the CoC's project ranking. All new and renewal projects will be ranked based on the project application's score, with consideration for the NoCO CoC-wide priorities, including prioritizing the funding of HMIS and Coordinated Entry.

Project Ranking Procedures

HUD requires CoC's rank new and renewal projects in two tiers. For the 2022 grant competition, Tier 1 is equal to 95% of the NoCO CoC's Annual Renewal Demand. Tier 1 projects, contingent on available HUD funds, are most likely going to be funded. Tier 2 projects will be funded, based on available HUD funds, competitively on a national basis.

Projects will be ranked based on a percentage of their total points possible (out of 150), accounting for CoC priorities of preserving funding for high performing renewal projects above other projects.

For the 2022 CoC Annual Competition, CoC Bonus and DV Bonus funds are available. CoC Bonus project(s) will be ranked above any projects applying for DV Bonus funds. Both CoC Bonus and DV Bonus projects will be scored and ranked as new projects.

Projects that are deemed essential to the CoC but which would be at risk of loss of funding if placed in Tier 2 will be ranked in Tier 1. This includes projects that are critical to the infrastructure of the CoC, including HMIS. Given the CoC's priorities to fund HMIS, as a critical component of the infrastructure of the CoC, the HMIS project will be ranked in Tier 1. The CoC Planning Grant is not ranked.

The Project Rating and Ranking Committee will first compile the completed ranking, with Tiers 1 and 2 clearly identified into a Priority Listing. The Priority Listing will be forwarded to the NoCO CoC Governing Board for review and approval. Project applicants will be informed whether their project was ranked and accepted into the CoC's full application, reduced, or rejected.

Project applicants that believe their project was scored and ranked with egregious unfairness may submit a written appeal to the NoCO CoC Governing Board. Appeals will be considered on the following basis: 1) if the project either was rejected for funding or was placed at risk of significant funding reduction, 2) demonstrated either the rating/ranking process did not follow the NoCO CoC stated procedures, or there were errors of fact rather than of judgement on the part of the Rating and Ranking Committee. Appeals must be submitted to the Governing Board for consideration within 2 business days of being notified of their rank on the Priority Listing. Valid appeals will be reviewed by the CoC Governing Board and a final decision made as to whether to change project ranking on the Priority Listing within 5 business of the appeal submission.

Reallocation Policies

HUD encourages CoC's to reallocate funding from underperforming or underutilized grants to other projects. Reallocation may occur through voluntary or involuntary actions. Reallocated funding is used to create new projects.

Unspent funds

Projects that are not fully expending their grant awards are subject to reallocation. Projects that have underspent more than 10% of their most recent grant award will be contacted to determine 1) if the agency would prefer to voluntarily reallocate a portion of their grant award or 2) the agency's plans to fully expend their grant award in the upcoming cycle. The CoC Governing Board may still choose to reallocate funds from underspent projects, particularly if the agency has not outlined an adequate plan to ensure the grant will be fully expended.

Voluntary and Involuntary Reallocation

Projects may choose to voluntarily reallocate their project's funding. These reallocated funds will be used to fund new projects or to expand high performing existing projects.

The Governing Board may choose to reallocate funding from renewal projects to new projects. In addition to reallocating funds due to underspending, the Governing Board may choose to reallocate funds from underperforming projects to new or expansion projects. Given the NoCO CoC is a newer CoC, with minimal opportunities to-date to monitor funded projects and allow projects to correct issues, only renewal projects that have completed at least one full grant year not meeting the threshold criteria outlined in the project rating application (i.e., scoring "0" on items marked as threshold criteria) will be considered for involuntary reallocation.

The Governing Board may also choose to reallocate a portion of renewal project funding to a new project if the new project is determined to be critical to the infrastructure of the CoC (e.g., HMIS or Coordinated Entry).