

SPRINGFIELD-HAMPDEN COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

FY2026 Continuum of Care Competition

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Seeking New Projects that will provide:

- Transitional Housing
- Supportive Services

for individuals and families experiencing homelessness

RFP Available: Monday, June 22, 2026

Technical Assistance Sessions:

» For Applicants Who Have Never Received a Continuum of Care Grant:

Monday, July 6, 2 pm

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86345153465?pwd=ajEoHWbpOEJsJFERghJdMUTKhtrXi3.1>

» Q&A Session for All Applicants:

Monday, July 13, 2 pm

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88150478746?pwd=7raZg8JCab3Khqodi1KZLPkMoUiqfc.1>

Application Due: Friday, July 24, 2026, 5 p.m.

Contents

I. INTRODUCTION..... 2

II. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY 2

 FUNDS AVAILABLE..... 2

 PRIORITY TIER 1 PROJECT RENEWALS..... 2

 ELIGIBLE PROJECTS..... 3

 NOTES ABOUT YHDP PROJECTS 5

 NOTES ABOUT DV BONUS PROJECTS & DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR DV PROVIDERS..... 5

 ELIGIBLE COSTS 5

 GRANT TERM..... 7

III. COC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 7

 MATCHING FUNDS 7

 HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) 8

 COORDINATED ACCESS SYSTEM 8

 HUD REQUIREMENTS..... 8

IV. APPLICATION PROCESS 8

 QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RFP 8

 INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION 9

V. APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION 9

 THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS..... 9

 COMPETITIVE REVIEW 10

VI. RFP SCHEDULE 11

Appendix A: Eligibility Categories for Existing CoC Grants

Appendix B: Project Scoring Tool – New Projects

I. INTRODUCTION

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the FY2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program on June 1, 2026; the notice is available at [FY 2026 Continuum of Care Competition and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grants NOFO](#). Continuums of Care (CoCs) must submit CoC collaborative applications to HUD no later than August 26, 2026.

The HUD NOFO sets up the procedure by which a CoC, through its designee, submits a single collaborative application to fund the CoC and eligible projects that advance the CoC goals. The designee for the Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care is the City of Springfield Office of Housing, which administers the CoC and all grants awarded to the CoC.

The consolidated application that will be submitted by the City of Springfield for the FY26 CoC Program Competition will include renewal projects from prior competitions and eligible new projects, including transition and replacement projects. The CoC is seeking proposals from Hampden County providers of services and housing for new, transition and replacement projects that provide Transitional Housing (TH) projects and Supportive Services Only (SSO), including SSO projects that provide street outreach and coordinated entry services. Projects must serve people who are literally homeless or who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence.

Projects funded through this competition will have an initial operating year of July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, and are expected to be eligible to compete for renewal funding in future years.

Eligible applicants include non-profits, local government, and housing authorities.

Updates to the FY26 CoC Competition will be posted to the [Springfield-Hampden County CoC FY26 Competition website](#).

II. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

FUNDS AVAILABLE

The CoC is eligible to apply for the amount that would be required to renew existing projects, which is \$9,787,593, plus bonus funds of \$1,468,138, and new project Domestic Violence Bonus Funds in the amount of \$623,675, for a full total of \$11,879,405.

PRIORITY TIER 1 PROJECT RENEWALS

The CoC has completed performance review of existing projects and has determined that priority projects that have met performance review standards will be placed in Tier 1 without further competition. These projects will be awarded approximately \$5,872,555 of the CoC's available FY26 funding.

These priority projects will be renewed in Tier 1:

- Existing Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) grant

- Existing Supportive Services Only-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project grants
- Existing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects that pass threshold review and will, upon renewal, require program participants to sign a program participant agreement which requires participation in supportive services
- Projects that were awarded for the first time in the FY24 competition and entered into a grant for the initial term after September 1, 2025, provided the program will, upon renewal, require program participants to sign a program participant agreement which requires participation in supportive services

Grants that will be awarded as priority Tier 1 project renewals are listed in Appendix A. These grantees will be provided renewal information separate from this RFP. The CoC review committee may decide to renew one or more of these projects for less than the full amount of the expiring grant, as described in the [Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care FY26 Competition Policies and Procedures](#).

Appendix A also lists the renewal grants that will not be placed in Tier 1 and must submit a new application in accordance with the requirements of this RFP. These projects are eligible to apply for a replacement grant for the same amount as the existing grant, and/or may apply for a new grant, and may also apply for an expansion grant. All new grant applications submitted in response to this RFP, including applications for replacement projects, will compete for funds and their applications will be scored and ranked.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The following types of projects are eligible for funding in this competition:

1. New Supportive Service Only (SSO) and Transitional Housing (TH) Projects

Supportive Service Only (SSO) projects provide services to people who are unsheltered or in emergency shelter. An SSO project may not serve people who are in housing, so these projects may not be paired with tenant leasing or rental assistance costs, even if those costs are funded by a non-CoC source. SSO projects include coordinated entry, street outreach, employment support, treatment/recovery navigation, childcare, behavioral health connections, case management, or other eligible supportive services. The FY26 NOFO does not limit the types of SSO projects eligible for funding, but it specifically mentions the following SSO projects:

- Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)
- Supportive Services Only – Street Outreach

Transitional Housing (TH) projects provide time-limited housing with supportive services intended to help participants stabilize and move toward permanent housing. TH may generally provide housing for up to 24 months, depending on HUD and project requirements.

2. Replacement Projects – Transition Projects

The FY26 competition allows existing projects to apply for a Replacement Project instead of a renewal. A Replacement Project enables an existing grantee to submit a new application for its grant funds, and the new application may make significant changes to the existing grant, including changing the grant's

component type. (Existing component types that can apply as replacement projects are Transitional Housing (TH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing (TH-RRH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Supportive Services Only (SSO)).

Important Note for the FY26 Competition: Because of the tiering structure that will be used for the FY26 competition, as well as strategic decisions made by the CoC Board of Directors, the following existing grant types will ONLY be able to apply in this competition for New or Replacement Projects that will change grants with certain components to new TH projects:

- Rapid Rehousing
- Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing
- Transitional Housing¹

New vs Replacement Projects

An existing housing project making significant changes may apply as either a New or a Replacement Project. Factors to consider in deciding which type to select:

- A Replacement Project may only apply for the same amount or a lesser amount than the existing grant.
- A Replacement Project-Transition Grant will be allowed a one-year transition period to shift from the existing grant component to the new TH grant component. Transition grant applications awarded FY 2026 funds must fully transition to the new component by the end of the 1-year grant term and may only apply for renewal in the next CoC Program Competition under the component to which it transitioned. A transition grant's operating start date will be the day after the end of the previous grant term for the expiring component.
- While a New grant can apply for more funds than allowed under the current grant, it will not be able to use a transition period; the project will be required to operate as the new component type starting July 1, 2027.

3. Expansion grants

The FY26 competition allows projects that are renewing to also apply for an Expansion Grant to expand existing projects to increase the number of units, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-CE projects.

Note the following rules that apply to YHDP and DV Bonus projects:

- YHDP: Only existing YHDP funds may be used for YHDP projects. Any expansion of a YHDP Project must take place through the Replacement Grant process. The total amount of funds

¹ The CoC Board of Directors did not select the single existing TH project to be included in Tier 1. In order to be competitive in the FY26 competition, the existing project may only be re-applied for as a Replacement or a New project.

committed to YHDP programs may not be expanded through this FY26 competition, so a YHDP Project will only be able to expand if a different YHDP Project shrinks.

- DV Bonus Project: Expansion of existing DV Bonus Projects may be done through use of DV Bonus funds, CoC Bonus Funds, or Reallocation Funds. However, only the DV Bonus funds will be given priority selection placement by HUD as DV Bonus project funds.

NOTES ABOUT YHDP PROJECTS

Match: YHDP projects are eligible for waiver of matching funds, if approved by HUD. The CoC will request that HUD waive the match requirement for YHDP grants due to the CoC's receipt of the Massachusetts EOHS Homeless Youth Project grant which provides significant annual funding for homeless and at-risk young adults.

Special YHDP Activities: YHDP Renewal projects may submit applications that include special YHDP activities which are ineligible under the CoC Program. Information about Special YHDP Activities will be posted to the [Springfield-Hampden County CoC FY26 Competition website](#).

Youth eligibility for YHDP projects: Any youth-serving provider funded under this NOFO may serve unaccompanied youth aged 24 and under (or families headed by youth aged 24 and under) who have an unsafe primary nighttime residence and no safe alternative to that residence.

NOTES ABOUT DV BONUS PROJECTS & DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR DV PROVIDERS

Data Requirements/Modifications: The CoC competition and operations are modified for projects designed to serve victims of domestic violence in order to accommodate the particular need for privacy and safety required by these programs. The following modifications apply:

- While all CoC-funded programs are required to participate in coordinated entry into housing and services, the CoC adjusts these policies and procedures to address privacy, confidentiality and safety for victims of domestic violence. CoC DV project grantees must participate in the CoC's DV Coordinated Entry system.
- The performance of CoC programs is evaluated annually, and part of the performance evaluation includes review of measures in reports pulled directly by the CoC from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Domestic violence entities are prohibited from using the CoC's HMIS, but must use a comparable data system. To accommodate the different data-keeping requirements, the CoC requires that DV programs submit their own aggregated data reports for the performance evaluation.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

The following guidance indicates the costs that may be included in program budgets, to be paid for by the CoC grant or by matching funds.

Rental Assistance

Rental assistance for homeless individuals and families, including tenant-based rental assistance. Grant funds may be used for security deposits in an amount not to exceed two months of rent, as well as last month's rent.

Leasing

The costs of leasing scattered site units to provide housing to homeless persons.

Leasing: Limits on rent costs. Rents paid must be reasonable in relation to comparable spaces or units, and may not be more than the owner charges others for comparable units. Rents for residential units cannot exceed the HUD Fair Market Rent (FMR).

Utilities. Utilities are not a leasing line item. If utilities are not provided by the landlord, utility costs are an operating cost.

Security deposits and first and last months' rent. Grant funds may be used to pay security deposits, in an amount not to exceed two months of actual rent, as well as last month's rent.

Supportive Services

The eligible costs of supportive services that address the special needs of the program participants.

Supportive Services in PSH and TH Programs Must Relate to Housing Stability

CoC supportive services must be necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing, and agencies must conduct an annual assessment of the service needs of the program participants and adjust services accordingly.

Eligible supportive services costs:

- Reasonable one-time moving costs
- Case management
- Food—meals or groceries for program participants
- Housing search and counseling services
- Life skills training
- Outreach services
- Transportation
- Utility deposits (one-time fee, paid to utility companies)
- Direct provision of services: 1) costs of labor, supplies, and materials; and 2) salary and benefit packages of service delivery staff

Ineligible costs: Any cost that is not described as an eligible cost is not an eligible cost.

Operating Costs

Grant funds may be used to pay the costs of the day-to-day operation of transitional and permanent housing in a single structure or individual housing units.

Eligible operating costs:

- Maintenance and repair of housing
- Property taxes and insurance

- Building security for a structure where more than 50 percent of the units or area is paid for with grant funds
- Electricity, gas, and water
- Furniture for the provider's offices
- Equipment

Ineligible costs: Program funds may not be used for rental assistance and operating costs in the same project. Program funds may not be used for the maintenance and repair of housing where the costs of maintaining and repairing the housing are included in the lease.

VAWA

VAWA costs are costs related to facilitating and coordinating activities to ensure compliance with the emergency transfer plan requirement in 34 U.S.C. 12491(e)]and monitoring compliance with the confidentiality protections in 34 U.S.C. 12491(c)(4).

Project Administration

The HUD-allowed administrative costs for new grants are 10% and for renewal grants is the amount previously set by HUD in the grant inventory worksheet—these amounts are listed in Appendix B. New projects are encouraged to use the full 10% administrative costs.

The City of Springfield retains 50% of the HUD-allowed administrative funds on each project to cover its costs of administering the CoC program.

GRANT TERM

New and renewal projects may only apply for one-year grant terms.

III. COC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

MATCHING FUNDS

The grantee must match all grant funds, except for leasing funds, with no less than 25% of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources. Guidance regarding cash and in-kind match is at [24 CFR 578.73](#). Cash match must be used for the costs of activities that are eligible CoC Program costs. Rental income received from participants may be counted as match.

In-kind match must be documented with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the subrecipient and the third party that will provide the services. Services provided by individuals must be valued at rates consistent with those ordinarily paid for similar work in the recipient's or subrecipient's organization. If the recipient or subrecipient does not have employees performing similar work, the rates must be consistent with those ordinarily paid by other employers for similar work in the same labor market.

The MOU must establish the unconditional commitment, except for selection to receive a grant, by the third party to provide the services, the specific service to be provided, the profession of the persons

providing the service, and the hourly cost of the service to be provided. **The signed MOU must be submitted as an attachment to your project application.**

Applicants for new projects must provide documentation of commitments for match funding. **Match commitments for new projects must be submitted as an attachment to your project application.**

During the term of the grant, the recipient or subrecipient must keep and make available, for inspection, records documenting the service hours provided.

HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)

All successful project applicants, with the exception of entities that are victim service providers, must participate in the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Access to the HMIS is made available to CoC grantees at no cost, and the CoC provides training in use of the system.

Victim services providers are required to use a comparable data collection system for recording client-level data and must be able to generate and provide HUD-required reports from the HMIS comparable system.

COORDINATED ACCESS SYSTEM

The CoC operates a coordinated entry system, in which persons to be referred to housing are assessed using standardized assessment tools, and are placed on a shared waitlist which prioritizes eligible applicants by need. All successful applicants are required to participate in the CoC's coordinated access system and are required to fill all housing vacancies and accept referrals for services through the coordinated access system.

HUD REQUIREMENTS

This document summarizes key components of the CoC Program. More information is available from the NOFO, available at [FY 2026 Continuum of Care Competition and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grants NOFO](#) and from the CoC Program regulations, [CoC Program Interim Rule](#). If there are any conflicts between guidance in this document and HUD guidance, the HUD guidance takes priority and should be relied upon.

IV. APPLICATION PROCESS

The FY26 CoC competition is open to new and replacement projects, which will be scored competitively. The highest scoring projects will be included in the CoC application submitted to HUD.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RFP

Applicants may not contact City staff directly with questions about the RFP. There are two ways to seek additional information or ask questions about the RFP:

1. **Technical assistance sessions.** Two technical assistance sessions are offered via Zoom.
» **TA session for new applicants:** Monday, July 6 at 2 pm

» Q&A session for all applicants: Monday, July 13 at 2 pm

2. **Submission of written questions.** Written questions may be submitted to gmccafferty@springfieldcityhall.com. The questions will be answered in writing, with the responses provided to all applicants who have created an application in *esnaps*. The deadline to submit written questions is July 16, 2026. Written responses will be posted no later than July 21, 2026 to the CoC website at <https://springfieldhampdencoc.com>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

1. The CoC FY26 Application is posted and available on the [Springfield-Hampden County CoC FY26 Competition website](#).
2. The applicant must complete all sections of the application form.
3. Submit the application form and all attachments no later than 5 pm on July 24, 2026 to gmccafferty@springfieldcityhall.com.
4. Note that successful applicants will be required to complete the on-line *esnaps* application in August 2026 to prepare the selected project(s) to be submitted to HUD as part of the overall CoC submission due August 26, 2026.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for consideration by the CoC Scoring and Ranking Committee, all projects must first successfully pass a review of threshold requirements. City of Springfield CoC staff will perform a threshold review of all submitted projects. ***Each project must meet the following minimum standards:***

1. The applicant has an active SAM registration and a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Number.
2. The applicant must be an eligible organization and provide documentation of non-profit status.
3. The Project applicant must demonstrate the financial and management capacity to carry, as indicated by review of the agency's audit.
4. The population to be served must meet program eligibility requirements in the CoC Program Act, the Rule, and the FY2026 NOFO.
5. The applicant must demonstrate the ability to contribute the required minimum match, unless the application is for a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) project.
6. Project applicants must certify affirmatively to the following:
 - The project applicant will not engage in illegal racial discrimination.
 - The project applicant will not operate drug injection sites or "safe consumption sites" in violation of 21 USC 856(a)(1), knowingly permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on

property under their control in violation of 21 USC 856(a)(2), or knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia in violation of 21 USC 863.

7. Housing projects (TH, PSH, RRH and TH-RRH) must incorporate participation requirements which require program participants to take part in supportive services.
8. Projects must meet HUD Threshold Review, as described in the CoC FY26 Competition application.

COMPETITIVE REVIEW

All applications that meet the threshold requirements will be forwarded to the CoC Scoring and Ranking Committee for evaluation, selection and ranking. Appendix B provides the scoring criteria that will be used to score new projects.

Please review the scoring criteria in connection with your responses to make sure you are providing the information needed to maximize your application score.

Scores will determine each project's rank in the CoC's application to HUD, where higher-ranking projects are more likely to be funded. Scores may also be used to reject applications.

Reallocation. Reallocation is the process of removing funding (in whole or in part) from a renewal project to fund a new project. There are several types of reallocation that may happen:

- Replacement projects that are ranked below all other replacement and new projects and fall below the application funding cut-off will not be included in the application.
- Renewal applications may be reduced by the CoC Review Committee in order to enable the CoC to fall within the application funding limit.
- Applications for projects that consistently fail to spend the full grant may be reduced to size the renewal grant to actual average spending levels.

Selection. Once the Review committee completes the scoring and ranking, the committee may consider the CoC's overall funding priorities, whether the initial scoring is likely to result in any critical service or geographic gaps, and strategy related to HUD's selection process, and may make adjustments to budgets and produce the final ranking of projects to be included in the CoC application. The Committee's rationale for any adjustments will be recorded and made public with the published rankings.

Because HMIS is required for the CoC and must be funded, the HMIS renewal grant will be ranked first. The CoC's Coordinated Entry projects are also required and will be ranked second and third.

Project selections, rankings and tier allocations will be provided to proposers by written notice and published on the following website no later than August 11, 2026: [Springfield-Hampden County CoC FY26 Competition website](#).

Applicants not selected by the CoC to be included in the CoC submission to HUD may appeal by submitting their *esnaps* Solo Application directly to HUD no later than 8:00 p.m. on August 26, 2026.

VI. RFP SCHEDULE

June 22, 2026	Hampden County CoC FY26 Competition Opens
July 6, 2026 2:00 p.m.	1 st Technical Assistance session Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86345153465?pwd=ajEoHWbpOEJsJFERghJdMUTKhtrXi3.1
July 13, 2026 2:00 pm	2 nd Technical Assistance session Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88150478746?pwd=7raZg8JCab3Khqodi1KZLPkMoUigfc.1
July 16, 2026	Deadline to submit written questions regarding RFP to gmccafferty@springfieldcityhall.com
July 24, 2026 5:00 p.m.	Deadline for Submittal of Complete Application Complete applications include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Application submittal2. Required Attachments
Aug. 11, 2026	CoC notifies applicants in writing whether projects will be accepted, rejected, or reduced, and the reason for any rejection or reduction
Aug. 19, 2026	Full CoC Application posted on CoC website
Aug. 21, 2026	CoC Board of Directors meets for approval of full CoC Application
August 26, 2026 8:00 pm	CoC Application Submitted to HUD Solo Applications for projects not selected in the local competition due to HUD
December 2026	HUD announces funding decisions
July 1, 2027	Project grant terms begin

Appendix A: Eligibility Categories for Existing CoC Grants

Current CoC Projects Qualifying as Priority Tier 1 Projects – Applicant Must Follow Separate Instructions for Project Renewal

CoC Project Name	Project Component	TOTAL Grant
HMIS	HMIS	\$248,958
CSO-FOH Coordinated Assessment	SSO-CE	\$331,453
DV Coordinated Entry	SSO-CE	\$295,052
YHDP Coordinated Entry & Navigation	SSO-CE	\$306,662
CHD Family PSH	PH-PSH	\$756,271
CSO-FOH PSH	PH-PSH	\$433,326
MHA CoC PSH	PH-PSH	\$1,804,157
YHDP MHA PSH	PH-PSH	\$182,308
VOC Family Supportive Housing	PH-PSH	\$274,163
Way Finders Turning Point	PH-PSH	\$85,072
Catholic Charities 62+ RRH	PH-RRH	\$742,198

Grantees must review **Instructions for Priority Tier 1 Projects** and complete all listed steps in order to be eligible for renewal.

Current CoC Eligible Only for Replacement or Transition (May not renew as current grant- may apply as New, Replacement, Transition Grant)

CoC Project Name	Project Component	TOTAL
Gandara SHINE RRH	PH-RRH	\$474,572
Gandara SHINE Young Families TH	TH	\$211,891
YWCA-Alianza TH-RRH	Joint TH & PH-RRH	\$916,030
YHDP CHD RRH	PH-RRH	\$700,739
YHDP Gandara TH-RRH	Joint TH & PH-RRH	\$253,466
TOTAL		\$8,809,285

Highlighted projects include additional restrictions regarding reallocation. Funds in these categories may not be reallocated to projects that serve a different population. Funds for projects highlighted in blue may only serve populations eligible under the Domestic Violence bonus funds category. Funds for projects highlighted in green may only serve participants aged 18-24.

Appendix B- Project Scoring Tool – New Projects

PART A – HUD Threshold Review: New project must meet minimum point threshold to be considered for CoC review and scoring in Part B

New TH projects: TH projects that do not receive at least 6 points will be rejected

Measure	Source	Max. Points	Scoring Criteria
Partnership to Provide Necessary Supportive Services	Application Q 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, and 7.6	2	Applicant demonstrates that project will provide and/or partner with other organizations to provide eligible supportive services that are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing (i.e., case management, behavioral healthcare, employment training, etc.)
Capability to successfully exit homelessness within 24 months	Application Q 9.1	1	The applicant has prior experience operating projects that have successfully helped homeless individuals and families exit homelessness within 24 months or has a plan in place to ensure homeless individuals and families will exit homelessness within 24 months.
Successful outcomes	Application Q 9.1	1	The applicant has prior experience operating TH or similar projects in which at least 50 percent of participants exit to a positive destination within 24 months and at least 50 percent of participants exit with employment income as reflected in HMIS or another data system used by the applicant. An applicant without experience meeting these benchmarks must provide a detailed plan for how the proposed project will achieve these outcomes.
Mainstream and Other Resources	Application Q 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3	1	The project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.
Service Plans	Application Q 7.2 and 7.3; Attachment – draft service participation requirement	2	Applicant describes plan to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess participant’s service needs; Create individualized service plans for each program participant that focus on improved health and wellness, housing stability, and increased employment income Provide individualized services that will provide participants at least 20 hours per week of engagement in services, activities or employment
Reasonable Cost	Application Q 9.2, 10.1 and 10.2	1	Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable.

New SSO “stand-alone” projects: Projects that do not receive at least 4 points will be rejected

Measure	Source	Max. Point Value	Scoring Criteria
Need for Project and commitment to conduct annual assessment of service needs	Application Q 7.3;	1	The Supportive Services project is necessary to assist people in exiting homelessness, addressing barriers to stable housing (e.g., substance use disorder, unemployment, childcare, etc.) and increasing self-sufficiency. The applicant will conduct an annual assessment of the service needs of the program participants.
Strategy for Providing Services	Application Q 7.3	2	The proposed project has a strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services.
Mainstream and Other Resources	Application Q 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3	1	The project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.
Reasonable Cost	Application Q 9.2, 10.1 and 10.2	1	Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable.

New SSO Street Outreach projects: Projects that do not receive at least 5 points will be rejected

Measure	Source	Max. Point Value	Scoring Criteria
Mainstream and Other Resources	Application Q 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3	1	The project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.
Strategy for Providing Services	Application Q 7.3	2	The proposed project has a strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services.
Partnership with First Responders and Law Enforcement	Application Q 8.4	1	Demonstrate that the applicant has a history of, or a plan for, partnering with first responders and law enforcement to engage people living in places not meant for human habitation to access emergency shelter, treatment programs, reunification with family, transitional housing or independent living. The applicant

			must cooperate and not interfere or impede with the enforcement of local laws such as public camping and public drug use laws and assist/be willing to assist first responders in their efforts to engage homeless individuals.
Capacity to Effectively Assist Unsheltered People to Access Shelter, Treatment, and Housing	9.1	1	The applicant has experience providing outreach services, or a plan for providing outreach services, and has a plan for or has demonstrated effectiveness at helping people successfully exit from places not meant for human habitation to emergency shelter, treatment programs, transitional housing or permanent housing programs.
Reasonable Cost	Application Q 9.3, 10.1 and 10.2	1	Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable.

New SSO Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE): Projects that do not receive at least 3 points will be rejected. Note that these requirements apply to Coordinated Entry at the system level. SSO-CE applicants that are designated “right door” agencies for the CoC’s Coordinated Access Program (CAP) and have signed CAP MOUs in place will be deemed to have met the threshold requirement for a new SSO-CE project.

Measure	Source	Max. Point Value	Scoring Criteria
Coordinated Entry system is available, reachable and accessible	n/a	1	The Coordinated Entry system is easily available and reachable for all persons within the CoC's geographic area who are seeking homelessness assistance. The system must also be accessible for persons with disabilities within the CoC's geographic area.
Advertising/Outreach Strategy	n/a	1	There is a strategy for advertising that is designed specifically to reach households experiencing homelessness with the highest needs.
Standardized Assessment	n/a	1	There is a standardized assessment process.
Referral to Appropriate Housing and Services	n/a	1	The project will ensure program participants are directed to appropriate housing and services that fit their needs.

PART B - for All Project Types

Measure	Source	Max. Points	Scoring Criteria
Experience – 10 points			
Applicant experience: Experience of the applicant in working with the proposed population and in providing housing or services similar to that proposed in the application	Application Q. 3.1	10	4+ years operating the programming comparable to what is proposed in the application – 10 points 2-3 years operating the proposed activities or 4+ years of homeless service provision but no direct experience with the programming proposed – 5 points
Track record with federal funds: Experience in effectively using federal funds	Application Q. 3.2	5	Has received prior federal grant(s) and describes success in meeting performance measures, timely spending, and compliance with reporting requirements
Project Design - 30 points			
Project Priority: Project addresses a geographic need and aligns with CoC FY26 priorities	Application Q. 4.2 and 4.3	10	Project is located outside Springfield and addresses an identified CoC priority project type – 10 points Project is located in Springfield and addresses and identified CoC priority project type – 5 points
Design: Project design is responsive to the needs of the clients to be served	Application Q. 6.1	5	Applicant demonstrates understanding of the needs of the clients to be served, and that the type, scale, and location of the project is responsive to the needs of the clients to be served
Staffing: Project staffing model is appropriate	Application Q. 6.2 and 6.3	5	Staffing model and justifications are appropriate. Recommended: TH staffing ratio 1:10; SSO staffing ratio 1:20.
Housing plan: Describes plan to assist clients to rapidly secure and maintain permanent housing that is safe, affordable, accessible, and acceptable to their needs	Application Q. 7.3	4	Describes how applicant will provide housing navigation and search assistance. For TH providers, describes strategies to locate and secure units, including master leasing, existing relationships with landlords, dedicated housing identification staff, etc.
Increase income: Describes how clients will be assisted to increase employment income to maximize their ability to live independently	Application Q. 7.5	3	Identifies specific strategies identified for assisting participants to increase employment income
Behavioral Health: Describes how clients will be assisted to access behavioral health services	Application Q. 7.4	3	Project provides access or referrals for behavioral health care. For a TH project to receive full points, behavioral health care must be available on site.
Performance – 30 points			
Performance measurement goals	Application Q. 9.2	5	The applicant establishes performance measures that are objective, measurable, and trackable
Success in assisting participants to access housing	Application Q. 9.1	10	The applicant has prior experience operating the proposed project type in which at least 50 percent of participants exit to a positive destination within 24 months as reflected in HMIS or another data system used by the applicant.
Success in assisting participants to access employment	Application Q. 9.1	10	The applicant has prior experience operating the proposed project type in which at least 50 percent of participants exit with employment income as reflected in HMIS or another data system used by the applicant.

Prevention of Returns to Homelessness	Application Q. 9.1	5	The applicant has prior experience operating the proposed project type in which no more than the following percentages of participants are dismissed from the project with an exit that is a homeless location: TH: no more than 15% exit to homelessness SSO: no more than 50% of participants are homeless at exit All SSO-CE projects will be awarded full points for this metric
Timeliness – 5 points			
Quick start-up: Plan for rapid implementation of the program	Application Q. 11.1	5	Application describes plan for effective and timely program start-up
Financial – 20 points			
Agency audit	Agency audit	5	The agency audit notes no exceptions to standard practices; characterizes the agency as low-risk; and does not include any findings that have not been resolved
Match	Application Q. 10.3 and attached match documentation	5	Documented match amount meets HUD requirements
Reasonable Cost	Application Q. 9.2 and 10.1	5	The average cost per household served for the project is reasonable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For TH, cost per household served is no more than \$17,000 • For SSO, cost per household served is no more than \$12,000
Budget	Application Q. 10.1 and 10.2	5	Budgeted costs are reasonable, allocable and allowable
TOTAL		100	