

Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties Continuum of Care (CoC)

Request for Proposals

FY2025 HUD CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Competition

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the FY2025 HUD CoC NOFO Program Competition on Friday, November 14, 2025. (See HUD NOFO)

Opening Doors Northwest Florida (Opening Doors NWFL) is the Collaborative Applicant responsible for completing and submitting the annual CoC Program application on behalf of the Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties CoC (FL-511).

On behalf of the CoC, Opening Doors NWFL is soliciting proposals for projects to be considered for FY2025 CoC Program funding available to the FL-511 Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties Continuum of Care. All eligible entities are invited to apply, including those that have not previously received HUD CoC funding.

Timeline

Friday, November 14, 2025	HUD published the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY2025 HUD CoC Competition and YHDP Grants NOFO.
Friday, November 21, 2025	Review and Ranking Committee Training Location: Opening Doors, 1020 N. New Warrington Rd. Pensacola, FL 32506 Time: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm In-person and Virtual options are available Virtual Meeting: LINK
Monday, November 24, 2025	Public Posting of Request for Proposals (Website & Email) Distribute to Escambia County Governmental Liaison Distribute to CoC Leadership Council Distribute to CoC Membership
Monday, December 1, 2025	Community Informational / Q&A Session Location: Opening Doors, 1020 N. New Warrington Rd. Pensacola, FL 32506 Time: 2:00 – 3:30 PM In-person and Virtual options are available Virtual Meeting: LINK
Friday, December 5, 2025	Letters of Intent DUE by 5 PM CST (new and renewal projects). Please submit your Intent to Apply by completing this Google Form. The form replaces a traditional letter and serves as your official LOI submission.

	https://forms.gle/QEFFPvxQZ5fgX26G6
Monday, December 15, 2025	Renewals and All New Project Applications are DUE by 5 PM CST and must be submitted via email at grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org. Any project applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered by the Review & Ranking Committee (RRC). Refer to Project Application Detailed Instructions for <u>NEW</u> and <u>RENEWAL</u> Projects.
Tuesday, December 16, 2025	CA Staff Completeness Review. Staff will complete threshold and eligibility checks, verify required documents, and prepare scoring packets for the RRC. Staff support only, not leading scoring.
Wednesday to Saturday, December 17 to 20, 2025	Review and Ranking Committee (RRC) Evaluation. Dec. 17-19: Members independently score applications Dec. 20: Members hold a virtual meeting to finalize ranking and recommend funding distribution.
Sunday, December 21, 2025	CA Staff Consolidate the Scores. Staff drafts final ranking and funding recommendations. Staff prepare the materials for R&RC and CoC board review.
Monday, December 22, 2025	Review and Ranking Committee Confirm Priority Listing. The RRC receives consolidated results and confirms the Priority Listing presented via email.
Tuesday, December 23, 2025	Governance Board approval of the final ranking and funding list. Board approves final ranking, funding recommendations, and authority for staff to send notifications and conduct appeals.
Wednesday, December 24, 2025	Initial Notifications sent by CA Staff / Appeals window opens Email sent to selected applicants, non-selected applicants, and the appeal period opens immediately.
Monday, December 29, 2025	Appeals Review
Tuesday, December 30, 2025	Final Notification of Priority Listing to Applicants by 5 PM CST. Final notices sent via email to all applicants on status of application as an accepted and ranked project included in the CoC Priority Listing, rejected, or reduced by the CoC.
CoC NOFO Workgroup continues to complete the Consolidated Application.	
Tuesday to Wednesday, January 6 to 7, 2026	All new and renewal project applications, and required documentation, are submitted to e-snaps by 5 PM CST

Thursday to Friday, January 8 to 9, 2026	CA Program Staff enter the Priority Listing to e-snaps.
Monday, January 12, 2026	CoC Consolidated Application and Priority Listing Submitted Goal deadline for CA staff to complete and submit application via e-snaps by 7 PM CST. CoC Consolidated Application and Priority Listing Posted Public posting on CoC Website
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	HUD Submission Deadline for 2025 Consolidated Application by 7 PM CST.

Funding

HUD has published the following available funding amounts for CoC FL-511.

- **Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD):** \$818,719
- **Anticipated Tier 1 Amount:** \$245,616
- **CoC Bonus Project Amount:** \$486,455
- **DV Bonus Project Amount:** \$243,227
- **Planning Project Amount:** \$121,614

Note: See the HUD NOFO for definitions of these funding designations. Explanations of the Tier 1 and Tier 2 can be found in the HUD CoC NOFO in Section V.3.a (pg. 92).

Funding Caps

The Continuum of Care program is a national competition. To promote balance and increase competitiveness, HUD has established a cap that no more than 30% of a CoC's ARD under this NOFO will fund permanent housing projects.

Eligible Applicants

Under 24 CFR 578.15 (and described in the NOFO in Section V.A.1.a), eligible project applicants include:

- Nonprofit organizations (including faith-based)
- State governments
- Local governments
- Indian Tribes and Tribally-Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs)
- Public Housing Agencies (PHAs), under certain conditions.

The Collaborative Applicant itself (the entity designated by the CoC to submit the consolidated application) must also be eligible under these rules.

Ineligible entities: For-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for CoC Program funding and may not serve as subrecipients under any CoC-funded project.

Solo Applicants: HUD restricts the submission of “solo applications” directly to HUD outside the CoC’s consolidated application. Solo applications are permitted only in limited, HUD-defined circumstances, such as when the CoC has refused to include a project in the local competition or when an applicant’s project was not submitted by the CoC.

All applicants must submit project proposals through this RFP process to be considered for inclusion in the FL-511 consolidated application. Applicants will not be eligible to submit a “solo application” to HUD unless the circumstances meet HUD’s specific criteria and HUD expressly permits it.

Resolution of Civil Rights Matters

Applicants must have resolved all civil rights matters to the satisfaction of HUD or the appropriate federal agency. Organizations with outstanding civil rights violations, unresolved findings, or noncompliance with a voluntary compliance agreement are not eligible for CoC Program funding.

Timely Submission of Applications

Late applications are not eligible for funding. The CoC has established a timeline to ensure compliance with HUD deadlines. See deadlines in Section VI of the CoC NOFO.

Suspension and Debarment

The Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties CoC will not recommend funding for any entities debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under the Non-procurement Common Rule implementing Executive Order 12549, “Debarment and Suspension”. The Collaborative Applicant is responsible for verifying subrecipient status in SAM.gov.

Cost Sharing and Match Requirement

Recipients must match at least 25% of all grant funds, excluding leasing costs, as required under 24 CFR 578.73, and must document the match at the time of contracting. Match may be provided in cash or with in-kind contributions from other sources. Applicants proposing to use program income as match must include an estimate of the amount they intend to apply.

Minimum Threshold Criteria

HUD has established threshold requirements for project eligibility and project quality.

Project Eligibility Threshold

All project applications must meet HUD’s Project Eligibility Thresholds to be considered for inclusion in the FL-511 Continuum of Care consolidated application. HUD will deem any project ineligible if it fails to meet these minimum requirements. At a minimum, applicants must demonstrate that:

1. **Eligible Applicant and Project Type.** The applicant is an eligible entity under 24 CFR 578.15, and the proposed project is an eligible project type under CoC Program regulations and the current NOFO.
2. **Eligible Program Participants.** The project will serve only persons who meet HUD’s eligibility criteria, including individuals and families who meet the definition of homelessness under 24 CFR 578.3 and program-specific requirements as applicable. (See Section III.G.10 of the NOFO, pg. 20)
3. **Eligible Activities.** All requested funds are for eligible activities as described in Sections III.F.4 and Section III.G.

4. **Financial and Management Capacity.** The project must demonstrate the capacity and experience to operate the project and administer federal funds. This includes showing experience with similar programs, a record of successfully managing federal or comparable funding, and sufficient internal controls to meet HUD requirements. The project budget must be reasonable, allowable, and allocable in accordance with federal cost principles (2 CFR Part 200).
5. **Participation in HMIS or Comparable Database.** Applicants agree to participate in CoC's HMIS (ServicePoint). Victim service providers must use a HUD-compliant comparable database that can meet the reporting needs of the local CoC.
6. **Applicant Certifications:** Project applicants must affirmatively certify that they will not engage in racial preferences or any form of illegal discrimination. Applicants must also certify that they will not operate drug injection or safe consumption sites; knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off property under their control; permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control; or conduct any such activities under the pretext of harm reduction.

Project Quality Threshold

HUD reviews all new project applications to ensure they meet required quality standards before funding. HUD will not award funds to any new project unless it was created through reallocation or the CoC demonstrates that its ranking process evaluates and prioritizes projects based on improvements to overall system performance. Our CoC will fully apply these requirements when screening, scoring, and ranking submissions.

What Counts as a “New Project”

For the purposes of HUD review and this RFP, a new project may be created in one of the following ways:

1. **Reallocation** – shifting funds from an existing project to create a new one.
2. **Expansion** – adding new units, services, or capacity to an existing CoC Program project through a new grant request.
3. **CoC Bonus Funding** – new projects funded through the CoC Bonus, which HUD allows only when the CoC demonstrates that its ranking process evaluates and prioritizes projects based on how they improve overall system performance.
4. **DV Bonus Funding** – new projects funded through the Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus, which provides additional dedicated funding for projects serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

HUD treats all of these project types as “new projects” for threshold review and applies the same standards to each. Stating them here once avoids duplication throughout the rest of this section.

Renewal Projects

HUD considers all renewal projects to have met the quality threshold based on their previously approved applications unless HUD becomes aware of significant performance or compliance issues.

Renewals should not assume threshold is guaranteed. HUD may re-evaluate a renewal project if there are concerns such as:

- unresolved monitoring findings,
- noncompliance with CoC Program regulations,
- chronic drawdown delays, or
- weak fiscal or grants management

Our CoC will align with this expectation by reviewing renewal applicants for substantial performance or compliance issues that could affect eligibility, scoring, or ranking.

Eligible Project Types

Eligible project types include the following in CoC FL-511:

- **TH (new)** – The Transitional Housing project type is open for application from new non-DV and DV project applicants.
- **SSO (new)** – The Supportive Services Only (Standalone) project type is open for application from new non-DV and DV project applicants.
- **SSO-SO (new)** – The Supportive Services Only (Street Outreach) project type is open for application from new non-DV project applicants.
- **SSO-CE (renewal or expansion)** – The Coordinated Entry project type is only open for application from the current Coordinated Entry grantee as a renewal or expansion grant.
- **PH-PSH (new, renewal, or expansion)** – Permanent Supportive Housing project type is open for application for new, renewal, and expansion projects under the non-DV application. PSH project applicants must identify whether the project will be Non-Dedicated, Dedicated, or DedicatedPLUS. For more information on these PSH categories, please see Section III.G. (pg. 19).
- **PH-RRH (new)** – This Rapid Rehousing project type is only open to new, non-DV projects that serve households who qualify as homeless as defined in 24 CFR 578.3. For more information about the RRH program component, see 24 CFR 578.37.
- **PH-RRH-DV (new)** – This Rapid Rehousing project type is only open to new, dedicated DV projects that serve survivors only and are designed appropriately for participant needs.
- **HMIS (renewal and expansion)** – The HMIS project is only open for application from the current HMIS Lead grantee as a renewal or expansion grant.
- **Planning (renewal)** – The Planning project is only open for application from the Collaborative Applicant.

Letter of Intent Requirement

Entities interested in applying for project funding for a renewal or new project are required to submit a Letter of Intent by the deadline in the timeline.

Link: Letter of Intent

Project Applications and Scoring Tools

Entities applying for project funding for a renewal or new project are required to submit a Project Application by the deadline in the timeline, using the appropriate type of Project Application: Renewal Project Application, New DV Project Application, or New Non-DV Project Application. Applicants who intend to apply for PSH expansion grants will use the New non-DV Project Application. These Application forms, along with related Scoring Tools, may be found here: <https://openingdoorsnwfl.org/collaboration/coc-program-competition-2025>. Note that Opening Doors Northwest Florida is the only entity that will utilize project applications for HMIS, Coordinated Entry, and Planning.

Project Application Attachments

To meet threshold requirements, project applicants must attach the following documentation.

- Nonprofit Status – 501(c)(3) determination letter, IRS Form 990, and FDACS Registration and Renewal
- Current SAM Registration – Must show expiration date and UEI number
- Letters of Support
- Match Letters
- Applicant Code of Conduct: Must be included in the HUD Code of Conduct Library (see Code Library). If not listed, a Code of Conduct that complies with 2 CFR 200 requirements must be attached to the project application.
- Attachments as required in the Application.

Project Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated by the Project Review and Ranking Committee (PRRC) using the FY 2025 Scoring Tool appropriate for the type of project submitted. These Scoring Tools are available on the Opening Doors Northwest Florida website.

The PRRC will discuss the applications and determine a recommendation for funding to be presented to the CoC Leadership Council for approval. These recommendations for funding will include the following types of recommendations:

- Projects to be rejected.
- Projects to be included in the CoC Application, along with recommended funding and any reallocations from renewal projects.
- Scores and ranks of each project to be included in the Consolidated Application, apart from the Planning Grant, which is not subject to the ranking as required by HUD.

The CoC Leadership Council or Executive Committee will review the recommendations provided by the PRRC and make the final decision regarding which projects to include in the Consolidated Application to HUD, at what amounts, and with what ranks. Upon approval, Opening Doors NWFL staff will provide notice via email to each project applicant regarding the CoC decisions, as described above.

Appeals

The Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties CoC will accept written appeals submitted to grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org by the deadline indicated in the timeline. The appeal must explain the reason for the appeal but may not provide any documentation or additional information that was not submitted with the original project proposal.

The CoC Leadership Council or Executive Committee will hold a virtual emergency meeting to discuss any appeals and finalize decisions. The project applicant and any affected parties will be notified of the Council's decision in accordance with the published timeline.

Project Listing Ranking and Notification

At the conclusion of the local competition, all accepted, reduced, and rejected project applications will be notified by email by Opening Doors Northwest Florida no later than December 30, 2025. Rejected and reallocated project notifications will include an explanation for rejection or reallocation, as applicable.

e-snaps Submission

Accepted project applicants must submit a project application in e-snaps (the HUD CoC Program online grant system). Project applicants may request technical assistance from Opening Doors NWFL to complete the submission in e-snaps.

HUD Resources

Important information regarding program components, expansion projects, consolidating grants, transition grants, CoC bonus projects, and DV bonus projects, including threshold requirements, are found in the HUD CoC NOFO. All new and renewal project applicants should review the HUD CoC NOFO to ensure that requirements and expectations are understood and met. Project applicants must also understand fully the definitions, requirements, eligible costs, program components, and expectations set forth in the CoC Program Rule in 24 CFR 578.

Below are HUD resources that will be helpful.

- [FY2025 HUD CoC NOFO Guide](#)
- [HUD CoC Overview Page \(including guidance\)](#)
- [HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition Page](#)
- [Introduction to e-snaps](#)
- [e-snaps website](#)

Contact Information

- Questions may be directed to grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org.
- Application materials, scoring tools, and additional information on the Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties CoC FY2025 CoC Program Competition can be found at: <https://openingdoorsnwfl.org/collaboration/coc-program-competition-2025>. Updates will be posted as new information becomes available.