Scoring Criteria for Renewal Projects
Finalized July 21, 2023

These criteria measure the performance of projects renewing their application for funding through the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition. The criteria measure projects' contribution to strengthening the overall system of care through data collection, coordination, prioritization, and improved client outcomes. The scoring is based primarily on objective criteria including performance outcomes, grant management and organizational capacity. Criteria requiring narrative responses will be scored by the NOFO Committee.

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Item	Description
Coordinated Entry Participation	Project certifies that it is participating in and compliant with Coordinated Entry to the extent possible for the project type.
Low Barrier/Housing First	Project certifies that it is low barrier and operates in adherence with Housing First requirements. This means that participants: (1) are not screened out based on income, active/history of substance abuse, having a criminal record, or a history of domestic violence, and (2) are not terminated from the project for failure to participate in services, and (3) are prioritized for rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and offered needed supports so that returns to homelessness are avoided. Project also certifies that relevant Housing First policies and procedures examined during the 2022 Local Competition <u>have not changed and remain compliant, or they have</u> <u>adopted new policies that are compliant. Projects</u> <u>must submit new policies.</u>
Client Eligibility	Project certifies that its written client eligibility policies are consistent with information provided to Coordinated Entry/Home Stretch. Project also certifies that relevant Housing First policies and procedures examined during the 20222 NOFO Local Competition have not changed and remain compliant, or they have adopted new policies that are compliant. Projects must submit new policies.

SCORED CRITERIA FOR RENEWAL PROJECTS

Total points available = 100 points

Overview of Available Points

Criteria	Description	Maximum Points Available
Section I: Performance Outcomes		**54**
A: Housing Outcomes	Retains housing or exits to permanent housing (for PSH) OR Obtains permanent housing (for RRH, TH, Joint TH/RRH)	14
B: Income	Adults who maintain or increase income (for PSH) OR Adults who increase income (for RRH, TH, Joint TH/RRH)	11
C: Non-Cash Benefits	Adults who obtain or maintain non-cash mainstream benefits (different calculations for PSH and RRH, TH, Joint TH/RRH)	11
D: Exits to Homelessness	Clients exiting to homelessness (for all project types)	12
E. Optional Performance Narrative	Applicants who do not receive high scores on A, B, C, or D may provide an optional narrative explanation and describe efforts to improve project performance. Applicants may earn back up to 5 points lost across the four measures.	[5]
F. Performance Improvement	How the applicant gathers and analyzes performance data on an ongoing basis (outside the CoC competition) and uses that information to improve performance.	6
Section II: Coordinated Entry and Serving Highest Need Populations		**6**
A. CE and Serving Highest Need Populations	How the applicant has operationalized CE participation; successes or barriers with CE; and steps to make enrollment simple and quick for high needs clients	6
Section III: Advancing Racial Equity and Meaningful Involvement of People with Lived Expertise		**16**
A. Advancing Racial Equity	How the applicant is implementing strategies and practices to advance racial equity.	8
B. Meaningfully Involving People with Lived Expertise	How the applicant is meaningfully involving people with lived experience in organizational and program decision-making.	8
Section IV: Grants Management		**12**
A. Reports and Invoicing	On time submission of APRs and and quarterly LOCSS draw downs	4
B. Capacity and Utilization	Percent bed/slot utilization during the project year	4

Criteria	Description	Maximum Points Available
C. Grant spending	Project spend-down in past grant year	4
D. Optional Spending Narrative	Applicants who did not receive maximum points for capacity and utilization may earn back points by providing a narrative explaining any underspending in the past grant year.	[2]
Section V: Organizational Capacity		**10**
A. HMIS Data Quality	Project data quality score	6
B. Fiscal Management	No outstanding audit findings	4
Quality Assurance	Consumer satisfaction survey; use of survey to inform project improvements, current or former participant on agency Board; staff participates in trainings	
Section VI: Incentive Points		**2**
Voluntary Reallocation	Project voluntarily reallocates unspent funds	1
Consolidation	Project applies to consolidate two or more grants, or consolidated in prior year	1
Total Points		**100**

SCORING DETAILS

Section I: Performance Outcomes (up to 54 points)

Criterion	Description	Score
A: Housing Outcomes for PSH Retains and/or exits to other Permanent Housing > 12 months	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Count the total number of people (Leavers and Stayers) who participated in the project for 366 days or longer. These are the successes, and the numerator. Using the total number of participants in the project during the reporting period, subtract the stayers in the project with 1-365 days of participation. These are the eligible participants and the denominator. Divide the number of successes by the number of eligible participants. Then, score the project relative to the **local benchmark of 95%** using the scale at right.	≥ 95% = **14** 94.9% - 90% = **11** 89.9% - 85% = **8** >84.9% = **0**
A: Housing Outcomes for TH, RRH and Joint TH/RRH Obtains Permanent Housing	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Count the total number of positive housing exits from the project using APR tables Q23a and Q23b. These are the successes. Count the total number of people who exited from the project during the measurement period (Q23a and Q23b) and subtract the total persons whose destinations exclude them from the calculation (Q23a and Q23b). This is the total number of eligible exits. Divide the number of positive housing exits by the total number of eligible exits. Then, score the project relative to the **local benchmark of 80%** using the scale at right.	≥ 80% = **14** 79.9% - 75% = **11** 74.9% - 70% = **8** >69.9% = **0**

Criterion	Description	Score
B: Income **For PSH** Adults who maintain or increase income	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Calculate the percentage of adults who maintain or increase income according to the formula below. Then, score the project relative to the **local benchmark of 50%** using the scale at right. *Adults Who Retained Income Category and Same $ at Annual Assessment As Entry* ***+*** *Adults Who Gained or Increased Income from Entry to Annual Assessment* --- *Total Adults (including those with no income) with Income Information at Start and Annual Assessment/Exit*	100% - 50% = **11** 49.9% - 45% = **9** 44.9% - 40% = **5** <39.9% = **0**
B: Income **for TH, RRH and Joint TH/RRH** Adults Who Increase Income	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Calculate the percentage of adults who increase income according to the formula below. Then, score the project relative to the **local benchmark of 30%** using the scale at right. *Adults Who Gained or Increased Income from Entry to Annual Assessment* --- *Total Adults (including those with no income) with Income Information at Start and Annual Assessment/Exit*	100% - 30% = **11** 29.9% - 25% = **9** 24.9% - 20% = **5** <19.9% = **0**
C: Non-Cash Benefits **For PSH** Obtains/ maintains non-	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Calculate the percentage of adults enrolled in non-cash mainstream benefits and health insurance using the formula below. Then, score the project relative to the **local benchmark of 56%** using the scale at right.	≥56% = **11** 55.9% - 51% = **9** 50.9% - 46% = **5**

Criterion	Description	Score
cash mainstream benefits	*1+ Sources of Benefits at Latest Annual Assessment for* *Stayers (Q20b)+* *1 + Sources of Benefits at Exit for Leavers (Q20b)+* *1 Source of Health Insurance for Stayers (Q21) +* *1+Source of Health Insurance for Stayers (Q21) +* *1 Source of Health Insurance for Leavers (Q21) +* *1+Source of Health Insurance for Leavers (Q21)* --- *Total Adults (Q18)+* *Total Adults Stayers Not Yet Required to Have An Annual Assessment (Q18) +* *Total Clients (Q5a)-* *Total Stayers Not Yet Required to Have an Annual Assessment (Q21)*	<45.9% = **0**
C: Non-Cash Benefits **for TH, RRH and Joint TH/RRH** Obtains/ Maintains Non-cash Mainstream Benefits	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Calculate the percentage of adults who obtain or maintain non-cash mainstream benefits using the formula below. Then, score your project relative to the **local benchmark of 56%** using the scale at right. *1+ Sources of Benefits at Latest Annual Assessment for Stayers (Q20b)+* *1 + Sources of Benefits at Exit for Leavers (Q20b) + 1 Sources of Health Insurance for Stayers (Q21)+ 1+ Source of Health Insurance for Stayers (Q21)+ 1 Source of Health Insurance for Leavers (Q21) + 1+ Source of Health Insurance for Leavers (Q21)* --- --- *Total Adults (Q18) +* *Total Adults Stayers Not Yet Required to Have An Annual Assessment (Q18) +* *Total Clients (Q5a) +* *Total Stayers Not Yet Required to Have An Annual Assessment (Q21)*	≥56% = **11** 51% - 55.9% = **9** 46% - 55.8% = **5** <46% = **0**

Criterion	Description	Score
D: Exits **for all project types** Exits to Homelessness	*The factor will be calculated as follows:* Calculate the number of clients exiting to homelessness according to the formula below. *[APR 5a Leavers - APR 23c Permanent Destinations Subtotal Total - APR 23c Deceased Total - APR 23c Institutional Destinations Subtotal Total] ÷ APR 5a Total Served*	<10% = **12** 10% - 14.9% = **8** 15 – 19.9% = **4** >20% = **0**
E: Supplemental Performance Narrative	If an applicant does not secure maximum points for any performance measures, they may provide a narrative explaining mitigating circumstances that impacted their performance, and describing any <u>best practices, training, or process</u> <u>improvements</u> implemented by the project in the last 12 months. Narratives will be reviewed by the NOFO Committee <u>at the time of the rating and</u> <u>ranking of applications</u>, and any additional points will be determined by the NOFO Committee. Points will only be awarded up to the maximum allowed for the 4 performance measures combined.	**[Earn back up to 5 points]**
F: Continuous Quality Improvement Narrative	Applicants must provide a narrative explaining their policies and practices for gathering and analyzing performance data outside the CoC competition cycle and using data to develop and implement strategies to improve performance. Examples of strategies that might be discussed: • Convening a regular performance improvement work group to review data and identify areas in need of improvement • Conducting regular client focus groups • Following up with clients after they exit to determine whether they are continuing to thrive in their housing; • If projects includes subrecipients; evaluating subrecipient data on a regular basis and working	**Up to 6 points**

Criterion	Description	Score
	with subrecipients to improve performance. This narrative will be scored by the NOFO committee.	

Section II – Coordinated Entry and Serving Highest Need Populations (up to 6 pts)

Criterion	Description	Score
A. Coordinated Entry and Serving Highest Need Populations Narrative	Given that all CoC funded projects are required to participate in Coordinated Entry (CE), and the Alameda County CoC uses an assessment tool that scores and ranks homeless individuals in order of highest priority (according to household characteristics, homeless history, housing barriers, and vulnerability), it is presumed that all projects are able to serve households with the highest needs. Applicants will be evaluated on compliance with Coordinated Entry and enrollment of highest need populations through referrals, as demonstrated by a narrative response that describes: • How the project has operationalized its participation in Coordinated Entry and alignment with requirements, especially filling project vacancies. • Any successes or barriers working with CE or Home Stretch and steps taken to resolve barriers. • Any affirmative steps the project has taken to make enrollment as simple and quick as possible, especially for high need participants. Applicants may provide data on the time from referral to enrollment/move-in. This narrative will be scored by the NOFO committee.	**Up to 6 points**

Section III: Advancing Racial Equity and Meaningful Involvement of People with Lived Experience (16 points)

Criterion	Description	Score
A. Advancing Racial Equity	**Score 2 points if the applicant is implementing any of the following policies and practices (up to a maximum of 8 points):** • Proactive monitoring of racial equity metrics in project data • Collection of qualitative information on project experiences of clients, disaggregated by race and ethnicity • Formal, written commitment to hiring racially and ethnically diverse staff at all levels and recruitment of board leadership • Written materials and translation services are available in multiple languages for participants with limited English proficiency • Racial equity and cultural responsiveness knowledge, skills and practices are part of staff job descriptions and workplans • Internal structures exist to address issues of racial equity and cultural responsiveness (e.g., formal or informal complaint resolution process, community advisory body, equity committee) • Staff receive training and support around racial equity and cultural responsiveness and their role in addressing racial inequities • Ongoing evaluation of policy, service of program impacts and progress towards racial equity and cultural responsiveness • Staff demographic composition closely mirrors client population demographics, in both frontline staff and leadership at the staff and board levels Applicants must provide a brief narrative describing any policies or practices checked. In future NOFO rounds, applicants will be required to furnish backup documentation of policies and practices.	**Up to 8 points**

Criterion	Description	Score
B. Meaningfully Involving People with Lived Experience of Homelessness	**Score 1 point** if the applicant conducts a regular Consumer Satisfaction Survey for project participants. **Score 1 point** if the applicant annually reviews client feedback _and_ uses it to inform program planning, implementation, and management. **Score 1 point** if there is a former or current program participant on the Board of Directors or Advisory Board. **Narrative (up to 5 points)**: Describe how the organization and/or project meaningfully involves people with lived experience of homelessness (in the last 7 years) in project design, implementation, evaluation or decision-making. Participant surveys and other methods of gathering input are counted in the items above and are not relevant for this narrative, which should focus on how people with lived experience are empowered to make decisions about how the project is designed and operated. (For example, hiring people with lived experience, advisory board with decision-making influence/authority)	**Up to 8 points**

Section IV: Grant Management and Cost Effectiveness (Up to 12 points)

Criterion	Description	Score
A: Reports and Invoicing	**Award 4 points if:** Project provided evidence of on-time submission of APRs and quarterly LOCCS draws for <u>the last two grant cycles</u> (or for as long as the project has operated if less than three years old), **76- 100%** of the time **Award 2 points if:** Project provided evidence of on-time submission of APRs and quarterly LOCCS draws for <u>the last two grant cycles</u> (or for as long as the project has operated if less than three years old), at least **75-51%** of time **Award 0 points if:** Project provided evidence of on-time submission of APRs and quarterly LOCCS draws for <u>the last two grant cycles</u> (or for as long as the project has operated if less than three years old), at least **50% or less** of time	**Up to 4 points**
B: Capacity and Utilization	**Award 4 points if:** The project was **fully utilized (100%)** during the program year **Award 3 points if:** The project was utilized to **90-99%** during the program year **Award 2 points if:** The project was utilized to **80-89%** during the program year **Award 0 points if:** The project was utilized **79% or less** during the program year	**Up to 4 points**
C: Grant Spending	**PSH, RRH, Joint TH/RRH** **Award 4 points if:** Project spent **100-90%** of funds in the last grant year.	**Up to 4 points**

Criterion	Description	Score
	Award 0 points if: Project spent **89% or less** of funds in the last grant year. **Transitional Housing** **Award 4 points if:** Project spent **100-95%** of funds in the last grant year. **Award 0 points if:** Project spent **94% or less** of funds in the last grant year.	
D: Grant Spending Supplemental Narrative	Applicants may describe spending trends/steps taken during the current grant year and provide an explanation for project's underspending of funds and any impacts to the community if the project grant was partially reduced due to underspending. Supplemental Narratives will be reviewed by the NOFO Committee and any additional points will be determined by the NOFO Committee.	[Earn back up to 2 points]

Section V: Organizational Capacity (Up to 12 points)

Criterion	Description	Score
A: HMIS Data Quality **Using APR data quality score**	**Award 6 points if:** Project's data quality score is 98% or higher **Award 4 point if:** Project's data quality score is 90-97% **Award 2 point if:** Project's data quality score is 80-89% **Award 0 points if:** Project's data quality score is 80% or less	**Up to 6 points**
B: Fiscal Management	**Award 4 points if:** Project provided the most recent annual independent audit (or financial statement if audit not required) from no earlier than FY ending no earlier than June 30, 2020, that shows no outstanding or pending HUD-related audit findings or areas of concern in the management letter **Award up to 2 points if:** Project provides documentation of a formal response by the Agency and/or funder which show HUD-related audit findings or areas of concern have been addressed **Award 0 points if:** Project provided the most recent annual independent audit that shows HUD-related audit findings or areas of concern and fails to provide a documented formal response that findings have been addressed.	**Up to 4 points**

Section VI: Incentive Points (Up to 2 points)

Criterion	Description	Score
A: Voluntary Reallocation	Award 1 point if the project reallocates unspent funds	1 point
B: Consolidation	Award 1 point if project applies to consolidate one or ore CoC funded projects or if consolidated in prior year	1 point