# Continuum of Care Membership Policy

The Continuum of Care (CoC) is an organized system serving TX-601, including the entire geographic area of Tarrant and Parker Counties. The CoC is committed to the shared vision of *a vibrant community where everyone has a place to call home and the resources to live their best life.* That vision is achieved through the CoC’s mission to *cultivate and create partnerships to collectively impact effective and efficient community solutions for those experiencing homelessness.*

Membership to the CoC is a designation unique to agencies, municipalities and school districts providing services to people experiencing homelessness within Tarrant and Parker counties. Becoming a member of the CoC certifies that an organization aligns with the following goals:

* Promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;
* Support efforts to quickly re-house individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, which minimizes trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness;
* Promote access to and effective use of mainstream programs; and
* Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to determine which agencies are eligible for membership to the CoC. Membership to the CoC also entitles entities to access to the Homeless Management Information System.

# CoC Membership Criteria

To become an approved member of the CoC an organization must meet the following criteria:

* Be one of three types of entities:
  + A legally established nonprofit, including 501c3 status
  + A municipality in Tarrant or Parker County
  + A school district in Tarrant or Parker County
* Provide essential services to people experiencing homelessness including:
  + Homeless Prevention
  + Homeless Diversion
  + Emergency Shelter
  + Street Outreach
  + Rapid Exit
  + Rapid Rehousing
  + Transitional Housing
  + Permanent Supportive Housing
  + Other Permanent Housing for people exiting homelessness
* Entities must also submit the following information to the Lead Agency for review
  + Mission statement
  + Year founded
  + Board of directors information, including number of directors and roles
  + Most recent 990
    - If 990 is not available, most recent audited financial statements
  + Homeless services budget
  + Number of people served in the previous year
    - Demographics of population served
  + Area served within the CoC

Based on system needs, Provisional membership may be considered at the recommendation of the Governance Committee.

# CoC Membership Fees

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| **Homeless Services Budget** | **Annual Membership Fees** |
| < $249,000 | $150 |
| $250,000- $499,999 | $375 |
| $500,000- $999,999 | $750 |
| $1,000,000- $2,999,999 | $1,000 |
| $3,000,000- $4,999,999 | $1,500 |
| $5,000,000 and over | $2,000 |

# CoC Membership Onboarding

Following approval for CoC membership, all entities are required to complete CoC onboarding including:

* CoC101
* HMIS
* CoC Compliance
* Boot Camp (annually)