

FY 2021 TX-601 Project Ranking Policy

CoC TX-601 will use the following process to rank all project applications in the 2021 Continuum of Care Program Competition to accomplish the following objectives:

- To prioritize those activities that are most successful in ending homelessness
- To maximize funding available to end homelessness in the CoC
- To provide an incentive to all funded providers to monitor and improve their performance, including efficiency with funds, to ensure continued funding with CoC resources

Projects are scored utilizing objective criteria including: project quality, past performance, cost effectiveness and contributions made to improve overall system performance. Domestic Violence providers will be evaluated utilizing data generated from a comparable database and are held to the same performance standards as non-domestic violence focused projects. TX-601 monitors HUD required and local performance and compliance standards throughout the year and findings are incorporated into the scoring process.

TX-601 uses a project renewal scorecard to evaluate all projects. This scorecard is generated through our data warehouse, Green River. The scorecard is based on APR data pulled through the Green River system and may have minimal variances from the APR data generated in the ETO system. TX-601 will use the scorecards with the Green River data and not the ETO data. During the scorecard process, agencies will have an opportunity to make data corrections to ensure an accurate scorecard. TX-601 will provide periodic scorecards to programs throughout the year so that they have ample time to make any corrections throughout the year.

After completing all renewal project scorecards, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup will preliminarily rank all renewal projects according to their scorecard score – e.g., projects with higher scores will be ranked higher in the project listing, regardless of project component type. However, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup and CoC Board will not make final ranking or funding recommendations until HUD releases the FY2021 CoC Competition Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Any unforeseen requirements stated in the FY2021 CoC Competition NOFA may impact ranking priority order, any necessary changes will be finalized and approved by the Allocations Performance Workgroup Committee.

Projects with equal scores and same project component type will be ranked based on grant recapture rates. The project with the lower recapture rate will be ranked above the project with the higher recapture rate.

Projects that are renewing for the first time, and subsequently have not completed a full project year and have not submitted an APR to HUD will not have a Project Renewal Score Card. These projects will be automatically renewed and will be given ranking priority over new project applications. Further, any project that has been under contract for 24 months or less will be automatically renewed and given ranking priority over new project applications.

New projects are not subject to a renewal project scorecard and will be required to complete a narrative response that will be scored by the Allocations Ranking Workgroup. New projects will be ranked in score order below renewing projects.

As HMIS and Coordinated Entry are HUD mandated activities, these projects will be placed in Tier 1 to secure the funding needed for these activities. The CoC Planning Grant is non-competitive and is not a ranked project in this competition.

The CoC Board approves all funding recommendations.

Renewal Project Score Threshold

All scored renewing projects are subject to an eligibility threshold. Projects that score in the lowest 30% of all Renewal Projects may be moved to a lower ranking status and may be subject to reallocation. For example, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup may choose to rank a new project above a renewing project that scores in the bottom 10%.

Geography

HUD has determined that geographic diversity is an appropriate consideration in selecting homeless assistance projects in the CoC competition. Likewise, TX-601 recognizes that geography is an appropriate consideration for the local competition. Projects may be ranked higher to ensure CoC funded programs are accessible to people experiencing homelessness throughout the entire TX-601 geography.

Vulnerable/High-Needs Populations

TX-601 recognizes that high quality projects that serve vulnerable and high-needs populations--such as chronic homelessness, domestic violence, severe mental illness, criminal history, and substance abuse--are a critical component to ending homelessness. To address these needs and vulnerabilities of program participants during the ranking and selection process, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup of the CoC may rank the projects higher to ensure that needs of these populations are being served through CoC funded programs. These programs must meet a need in the community, show positive housing related outcomes, and provide choice to participants seeking the services offered.

New projects applying for the Domestic Violence Bonus funds will be ranked in Tier 2 to ensure that existing high performing renewal projects that serve high-needs populations will remain prioritized in the competition. If there are no other Domestic Violence renewal projects in Tier 1, Domestic Violence Bonus projects will be considered for Tier 1.

Voluntary Reallocation

Projects that choose to voluntarily reallocate at least 55% of their current grant amount in order to apply for a new reallocation-based project may be granted additional consideration in the ranking order.