Charlotte-Mecklenburg CoC FY24 NOFO Project Priority Ranking Policies

CoC Board Approved: 05/23/2024

This document provides the policies by which projects seeking funding in the FY2024 Continuum of Care competitions will be prioritized and ranked. These priorities are subject to change based on HUD's funding priorities.

A. Project Priority Ranking Order

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) is required to prioritize and rank projects applying for Continuum of Care (CoC) funding in the annual CoC competition. Projects seeking renewal or new funding in the FY2024 CoC competition will be prioritized and ranked as follows.

1. The CoC's **renewal infrastructure projects** will be ranked first. Infrastructure projects are defined as dedicated HMIS grants and Coordinated Entry Supportive Services Only (CE-SSO) grants. Renewal CE-SSO project will be ranked above renewal HMIS project as CE-SSO project provides direct services to people experiencing homelessness

2. **Renewal Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects** ranked by overall percentage scored on the renewal application, from highest to lowest.

3. **Renewal Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects** ranked by overall percentage scored on the renewal application from highest to lowest.

4. **Renewal projects that have not yet completed one full calendar year** of operations as of May 31, 2024 will be ranked in the middle of renewals in items 2 & 3 above in the following order by how they were ranked in the FY23 priority list:
   a. PSH projects
   b. RRH projects
   c. TH-RRH projects
5. **New, including expansion project(s)** created via reallocation and/or CoC Bonus that increase the number of subsidies available by overall project score:
   a. New or expansion PSH LEASING (master leasing) projects
      • Preference for new PSH that will serve families or unaccompanied youth due to increasing number of chronically homeless family & unaccompanied youth households
   b. New or expansion PSH RENTAL ASSISTANCE (scattered site) projects
      • Preference for new PSH that will serve families or unaccompanied youth due to increasing number of chronically homeless family & unaccompanied youth households
   c. New or expansion RRH projects
   d. New Joint TH-RRH projects
   e. New or expansion CE-SSO (Coordinated Entry-Support Services Only) projects
   f. New or expansion dedicated HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) projects

6. **New Domestic Violence Bonus projects** that increase the number of subsidies available by overall project score in the following order by overall project score:
   a. New or expansion RRH or Joint TH-RRH (Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing) projects
   b. New or expansion CE-SSO projects

B. **Tiebreaking Criteria**

Tiebreakers for ranking policies 3 & 4 (renewal) will be applied in the following order:

1. First tiebreaker: points earned on Length of Time Homeless component
2. Second tiebreaker: points earned on percentage of participants who gained or increased income from entry to exit.
3. Third tiebreaker: points earned on exits to permanent housing component
4. Fourth tiebreaker: the percentage of points earned on component that addresses involving persons with lived experience in the delivery of services

Tiebreakers for ranking policies 5 & 6 (new) will be applied in the following order:

1. First tie-breaker (for PSH, RRH, TH-RRH project applications): Points earned on Housing First Assessment component

2. First tie breaker (for infrastructure projects: Points earned on Project Description component

3. Second tie-breaker (for all applications): Points earned on Equity Factor component addressing under-represented individuals (BIPOC, LGBTQ+, etc) in managerial & leadership positions.

C. **Projects Straddling Tier 1/Tier 2**

If a project, once listed in ranking order, straddles the Tier 1/Tier 2 funding line with a portion of the project budget falling within Tier 1 and the remaining within Tier 2, the feasibility of the project to operate with only the Tier 1 amount will be determined as follows:

1. Utilizing the response to the question that asks the impact on the project if it does not receive full funding, the Ranking Committee will decide whether the project would be feasible & still have impact at the reduced amount. If the committee determines it would be feasible, the project will be submitted as is, straddling the Tier 1/Tier 2 line. If the committee determines it would not be feasible, that project will be dropped down so that it is entirely in Tier 2, and the next ranked project will be moved up. The feasibility of this project will then be determined.
2. If an agency indicates a minimum amount needed to still be feasible exceeding the project's Tier 1 amount, that project will be automatically moved into Tier 2, and the next ranked project will be moved up and the process given in #1 above will then be repeated with the next ranked project.
3. This process will continue until the following are realized:
   a. All Tier 1 funds are allocated; OR
   b. The amount of funds remaining in Tier 1 are a negligible amount. If this occurs, the ranking committee retains the discretion to reallocate the remaining funds to another project in Tier 1 that can accept additional funds.

4. If the amount remaining in Tier 1 is of such a small amount that no project indicates it would be feasible at that reduced amount, steps 2 & 3 will not apply, but rather project will be ranked according to their original order

D. Renewal Project Threshold Score

All project applying for renewal funding will be evaluated and scored on a given point scale on the scorecard. In the FY2024 competition, renewal projects must score at least 50% of the points possible to be placed on the project ranking list. Renewal projects that do not score at least 50% will be able to submit an appeal. Projects should anticipate the 50% threshold may increase in subsequent competitions

E. Final Ranking List Review and Recommendation

Following the review, scoring and appeals of renewal & new project applications, a preliminary project ranking list will be developed in accordance with the above priority ranking order. This ranking list, with projects identified by name and type, will be reviewed by the Ranking Committee. The committee will present its final recommended project ranking list to the CoC board in accordance with the timeframe required by HUD. The CoC board will vote to approve the final project ranking list

Renewal Project Appeals

Renewal projects can appeal their project score but may not appeal its placement on the project priority ranking list