Before Starting the Special CoC Application

You must submit both of the following parts in order for us to consider your Special NOFO Consolidated Application complete:
  1. the CoC Application, and
 2. the CoC Priority Listing.

   The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
 - 24 CFR part 578
 - Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
 - Section 3 Resources
 - Frequently Asked Questions

  As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:
  1. The Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
 2. The Special NOFO Continuum of Care (CoC) Application Detailed Instructions for Collaborative Applicants which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
 3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
 4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
 5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

  CoC Approval is Required before You Submit Your CoC's Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on behalf of your CoC.
  - 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

  Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions
 Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

  Attachments
 Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You must upload the [Specific Attachment Name] attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed–including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.
- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with–if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.
 - We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1A-1. CoC Name and Number: CA-614 - San Luis Obispo County CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: County of San Luis Obispo

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: County of San Luis Obispo

1A-5.	New Projects	
	Complete the chart below by indicating which funding opportunity(ies) your CoC applying for projects under. A CoC may apply for funding under both set asides; however, projects funded through the rural set aside may only be used in rural areas, as defined in the Special NOFO.	
1.	Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside	Yes
2.	Rural Homelessness Set Aside	No

1B. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1B-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for project application submission for your CoC's local competition.	08/10/2022

1B-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.a.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected new project applications during your CoC's local competition:	
1.	Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
2.	At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
3.	At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	Yes

1B-3.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
1.	Did your CoC reject or reduce any project application(s)?	No
2.	Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	No
3.	If you selected yes, for element 1 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	

1B-3a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	09/14/2022

1B-4.	Web Posting of the CoC-Approved Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC posted its Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on the CoC's website or affiliate's website–which included: 1. the CoC Application, and 2. Priority Listings.	10/18/2022

2A. System Performance

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2A-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors.	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.b.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC determined which risk factors your CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;
2.	how your CoC addresses individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time or to end homelessness for individuals and families.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC's Finance and Data Committee identified the following factors for people experiencing homelessness for the first time: tenants being displaced when rental properties are sold, landlords increasing rents, substance abuse issues, mental health issues and physical health conditions. The 2022 PIT count found that large number of respondents were experiencing homelessness due to arguments with family/friends. The CoC is seeing an increase in people aging out of their current living situation and being unable to live independently but without the means for assisted living.
2) San Luis Obispo County is the second least affordable small metro area in the entire nation. The County's cost of housing is about 51.7% higher than the national average, ranking it as a small metro area with the fourth highest housing cost in the United States. Thus, current strategies to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless include an emphasis on homelessness prevention and diversion. Agencies work with city utility companies for referrals for clients who are behind on utilities. Two of our CoC service providers also participated in California's COVID Rental Relief Program to assist households who were behind on their rent. Agencies provide financial literacy training including in partnership with the Consumer Affairs Bureau. CoC agencies also provide referrals to counseling and resources to family members with loved ones who have mental illness. CoC case managers are also being trained on diversion best practices and family reunification. In addition, the CoC also utilizes shared housing resources to make housing more affordable.
3) The Homeless Services Oversight Council is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time or to end homelessness for individuals and families.

2A-2.	Length of Time Homeless–Strategy to Reduce. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.c.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;
2.	how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) Increasing affordable housing inventory is a main strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless. The CoC recently adopted the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness (2022-2027), which includes strategic coordination to ensure the creation of permanent supportive housing and low income/very low-income housing, including small Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) to meet Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) targets in all jurisdictions. The CoC utilized state funding to add 84 PH beds with four of those beds set aside for homeless youth. An additional four PSH beds are being added to the inventory due to the recent purchase of a house with CDBG funding. The CoC partnered with the local Housing Authority to successfully apply for 38 Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers. The CoC partnered with the Housing Authority for 65 vouchers to create a program to house chronically homeless families combined with services such as drug and alcohol and mental health treatment. CoC providers work with law enforcement for successful family reunification. Offering landlord incentives has created new working relationships with landlords who previously had no experience renting to households experiencing homelessness.
2) The CoC identifies and prioritizes households for housing who have the longest length of time homeless utilizing the Coordinated Entry process and the Vulnerability Index-Services Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). Based on score and length of time homeless, individuals and families are placed on the CoC's housing master list. Monthly case manager meetings are held to prioritize clients based on housing availability and need.
3) The Homeless Services Oversight Council is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.

2A-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.d.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC will increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in:
1.	emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and
2.	permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) Rapid Rehousing (RRH) funding will continue to be a priority in the CoC utilizing CDBG, ESG and state funding programs. Through CARES Act funding, service providers increased case management and housing navigation resources, which increased capacity to house more clients. They also collaborated with the local Housing Authority to rapidly place people into housing using Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV). Strategies used included landlord incentives, which resulted in 20 new landlords/property managers joining the voucher program. ESG-CV Rapid Rehousing providers have also created new relationships with 18 new landlords utilizing landlord incentives. Emergency Shelters are conducting more housing focused case management. Coordinated Entry is being revamped to include additional housing options to expand housing choices for clients.

2) The CoC's strategy includes placing clients in subsidized housing to ensure rent remains affordable to the clients in the future combined with supportive services needed to maintain housing. The CoC utilized ESG-CV funding to increase the length of time households receive case management to allow more follow-up to increase housing stability during a time with more volatility that has the potential for more unexpected negative events. Landlord engagement and the addition of new housing navigators have increased the inventory of available housing. CoC case managers are expanding their knowledge of diversion strategies and working to improve problem solving and mediation with family members. The CoC utilized state funding to add 84 PH beds with four of those beds set aside for homeless youth. An additional four PSH beds are being added to the inventory due to the recent purchase of a house with CDBG. funding. The CoC partnered with the local Housing Authority to successfully apply for 38 Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers, and for 65 vouchers to create a program to house chronically homeless families combined with services such as drug and alcohol and mental health treatment.

2A-4.	Returns to Homelessness–CoC's Strategy to Reduce Rate. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.e.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC identifies individuals and families who return to homelessness;
2.	your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC analyzes HMIS data to better understand patterns of returns to homelessness. Monthly Case conferencing meetings are also used to help identify households who are at risk of returning to homelessness.
2) The CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness is to use the Housing Prioritization assessment to try to direct families and individuals to the level of housing intervention that matches their needs. In addition, the CoC uses a strategy of client choice of units, allowing clients to reject housing offers up to three times, to increase client's satisfaction with their housing. The CoC has also adopted a strategy of increasing case management support for clients in housing to maintain housing stability. CoC case managers are expanding their knowledge of diversion strategies and working to improve problem solving and mediation with family members.
3) The Homeless Services Oversight Council is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.

2A-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase employment cash sources;
2.	how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income; and
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC's strategy to increase employment income includes a formal partnership with the local Workforce Development Board, strengthening collaboration with CalWORKs and youth employment and education programs to help unhoused persons gain skills and education that will allow them to earn higher wages or secure more hours of work. The CoC PSH provider operates the Growing Grounds Farms and Growing Grounds Downtown in San Luis Obispo and the Growing Grounds Farm in Santa Maria, three social enterprises that provide the only structured, multi-level vocational training program on the Central Coast for adults with mental illness. The three businesses employ over 200 adults annually. The PSH provider also works with the Department of Rehabilitation to develop return to work plans.

2) The CoC's strategy is to connect unhoused persons with employment programs through partnerships with the local Workforce Development Board and Welfare to Work Programs, holding resource fairs where unhoused persons can connect to education/training/employment resources, and building partnerships with local employers. The CoC has an MOU with the Workforce Development Board (WDB) in which WDB has agreed to make unhoused persons a priority population. WDB and CoC staff will also be doing cross-training and the WDB has agreed to help homeless services agencies enroll unhoused persons in the WDB's online job search and resume building program. The CoC also partners with the Department of Social Services to refer families for screening for the Welfare to Work program, which can provide subsidized employment and education. Former foster youth who are unhoused are referred to the Transition Age Youth Financial Assistance Program, which can help pay for living expenses for former foster youth while they attend college or employment training and certification programs. The CoC's PSH provider also works closely with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and makes referrals of clients with disabilities as appropriate to DOR for assessment of what jobs the person might be able to do and to work with DOR on a strategy for seeking employment. CoC providers also coordinate with the local community colleges for job training opportunities.

3) The Homeless Services Oversight Council is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy for increasing jobs and income from employment.

	2A-5a.	Increasing Non-employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)	
		Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	

		Describe in the field below:	
	1.	the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase non-employment cash income;	
	2.	your CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash sources; and	
	3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC's current strategies to increase access to non-employment cash income includes training CoC and ESG service providers on benefits programs administered by the Dept. of Social Services (DSS), including CalWORKS (which includes Temporary Assistance to Needy Families benefits), CalFresh (i.e. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and General Assistance. Coordinated Entry, CoC and ESG staff are trained on public benefit programs, how to make referrals to DSS and help clients apply online for CalFresh benefits. The CoC created two programs to help persons with disabilities apply for and obtain Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) benefits. The Benefits ARCH program helps General Assistance-Disability recipients to apply for SSI/SSDI, and the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program helps homeless persons to apply for SSI or SSDI and provides bridge housing until they receive those benefits. The CoC's PSH provider receives SAMHSA funding and their case managers receive SOAR trainings and certification.

2) The CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash income includes promoting the benefits of the free online SOAR training and certification in the CoC committee meetings. One of our providers was recently awarded an expansion of Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) which will help homeless persons to apply for SSI or SSDI. The CoC's Special Unsheltered project applicant proposes to coordinate outreach strategies across multiple agencies throughout the CoC geography, and all program participants will be screened for current benefits enrollments through the Coordinated Entry assessment. The County will pilot a site-based Regional Homeless Operations Center to support housing navigation services and benefits enrollment at the County operated Safe Parking Village as part of the recently adopted San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness (2022-2027).

3) The Homeless Services Oversight Council is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.

2B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Sections VII.B.3.a.(1)	

	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:
1.	select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted–including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC's coordinated entry system; or
2.	select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC's geographic area:

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing of CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC's Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	Agencies serving survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes	No
3.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	No
4.	CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Nonexistent	No	No
5.	CoC-Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Nonexistent	No	No
6.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	No
9.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No	No
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	No
11.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	No
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	No	No	No
16.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Local Jail(s)	No	No	Yes
18.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

20.	Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Nonexistent	No	No
21.	Non-CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	No
22.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	No	No	No
23.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	No	No	No
24.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	No
28.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)			
33.	Faith Based Organizations	Yes	Yes	No
34.	Business Organizations	Yes	Yes	No

2B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(2), V.B.3.g.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	communicated the invitation process annually to solicit new members to join the CoC;
2.	ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats;
3.	conducted outreach to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join your CoC; and
4.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, other People of Color, persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) CoC vacancies are publicly posted on the CoC's website and at the County Clerk Recorder's office to solicit new members annually. The open invitation process actively solicits new members via notification at the public CoC meeting and CoC committee meetings, and via the CoC email list. Approximately 1/3 of CoC appointment terms expire annually. The HSOC may have no more than two representatives, staff or Board members from the same organization, ensuring opportunities for new voices.

2) CoC meetings are held on virtual platforms which are accessible to people who use assistive technology and allow for automatic closed captioning. Agenda materials are available as accessible PDFs. Large print copies of meeting materials and ASL interpreters are available upon request. Agenda materials comply with accessibility standards, using high contrast and accessible fonts with a minimum font size of 12pt. The CoC website is hosted within the County of San Luis Obispo's website, which has implemented a standard to work towards meeting Accessible Rich Internet Applications guidelines and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, to ensure it is accessible for people who use screen readers.

3) During our annual recruitment process for the CoC governing board, we ask our partner agencies to approach clients who would bring relevant knowledge and experience that they could effectively contribute to the CoC. If candidates give permission, we contact them to discuss what they could contribute to the CoC and provide the membership form. As people experiencing homelessness often do not have access to a computer or printer, we offer to provide the form in hard copy and to collect it once they have filled it out.

4) Invitations are sent through the CoC's email list, which includes the Chair of the NAACP's Housing Committee, County's Health Equity Coordinator, the local United Way, groups that serve areas with higher concentrations of culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness, groups that specialize in serving people with disabilities, mental health outreach teams, and substance abuse treatment advocates. Special outreach is conducted to engage underrepresented categories within the CoC governing board, via communication with partner agencies which specialize in serving underrepresented groups. Two seats are reserved on the board for a currently or formerly homeless person. Seats are also reserved for a victims' services advocate and veterans' services advocate.

2B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(3)	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information; and
3.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) CoC membership includes representatives from a broad range of organizations and backgrounds including; elected city officials, County Board of Supervisors, County Department of Social Services, County Department of Behavioral Health, nonprofit service providers, affordable housing developers, County Office of Education, local businesses, hospitals, law enforcement, healthcare providers, faith based members, victim services representatives, veteran service representatives and interested community members. CoC Board members and committee members regularly reach out to liaison organizations and individuals to collaborate and present information and recommendations during committee and board discussions.

2) Meetings of the CoC and its committees are open to the public and are announced through the CoC's website and email listserv which includes representatives from local service providers, local government entities, ESG providers, law enforcement, affordable housing developers, mental health outreach teams, public housing authorities, advocates, non-CoC funded organizations, homeless advocates, substance abuse treatment advocates, child welfare service providers, and other organizations and individuals interested in homeless issues in the county. Notices of meetings and meeting agendas are also posted at least 72 hours in advance at the County Government Center building. Agendas and minutes also are posted online on the CoC website and printed copies are available to the public by request.

3) The CoC consulted with a wide range of stakeholders for its new strategic plan, which informs its approach to homelessness for the next five years. Input was sought from all the cities within the jurisdiction, law enforcement, Behavioral Health agencies, the local Housing Authority, chambers of commerce, and people currently and formerly experiencing homelessness. The CoC has also taken advice from a veterans support agency and as a result, modified its Coordinated Entry process to prioritize veterans experiencing homelessness who are not eligible for support from veteran programs. A number of public hearings were held to gather input from the public, homeless services agencies, and County Board of Supervisors, for both the strategic plan and the California HHAP 3 grant. Along with surveys targeting the clients of homeless service agencies, the feedback received was used to prioritize outcomes for the HHAP 3 grant application, and to revise the strategic plan.

2B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(4)	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:
1.	that your CoC's local competition was open and accepting project applications;
2.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;
3.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications;
4.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and
5.	how your CoC effectively communicated with individuals with disabilities, including making information accessible in electronic formats.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The 2022 HUD CoC Special Unsheltered local Competition request for proposals was released on August 10, 2022 and was posted on the County of San Luis Obispo's website for funding opportunities. An email announcing the funding opportunity with a link to the application materials was sent out via the CoC email listserv to all CoC members and interested parties. The funding opportunity was also presented to all the CoC Committees and was also presented to the San Luis Obispo Supportive Housing Consortium whose mission is to increase housing supply for very low-income County residents with special needs and to advocate for financial assistance and supportive services to assist with their housing needs. An information meeting for interested parties was held on August 19, 2022, to educate potential applicants of the HUD CoC program and application process.

2) Applicants were required to contact CoC staff to become a registrant under the County of San Luis Obispo applicant profile in e-snaps to submit an application. In addition to the e-snaps application, the applicants were also required to submit a supplemental application as a PDF via email by the project application deadline.

3) A non-conflicted Ad Hoc Grant Review Committee met on 9/6/22 to discuss and rank the application. The Committee examined the project application and considered factors such as past performance, project cost efficiency, severity of needs served, exits/ retention to permanent housing, housing first policies, supportive services, and consistency with local CoC priorities. Project application recommendations were submitted to the Full CoC Board for vote and approval on 9/21/22.

4) The 2022 HUD CoC Special Unsheltered local Competition informational meeting was held on a virtual platform which was accessible to people who use assistive technology and allow for automatic closed captioning. Application materials were available online as accessible PDFs and were produced in compliance with accessibility standards, using high contrast, avoiding contrasting colors that would create barriers for people with color blindness, and using accessible fonts with a minimum font size of 12pt. The CoC website is hosted within the County of San Luis Obispo's website, which has recently implemented a standard to work towards meeting Accessible Rich Internet Applications guidelines and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines to ensure it is accessible for people with disabilities who use screen readers.

2C. Coordination / Engagement–with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
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2C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

In the chart below:	
1.	select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC's coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or
2.	select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC's geographic area.

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with Planning or Operations of Projects
1.	Funding Collaboratives	Yes
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	No
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	Yes
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Nonexistent
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	
18.		

2C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG funds;
2.	participated in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients;
3.	provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area; and
4.	provided information to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions to address homelessness within your CoC's geographic area so it could be addressed in Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The County Department of Social Services serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the HUD CoC grant and also receives ESG funding through the state of California. The County Planning and Building Department serves as the recipient for ESG entitlement funding. With the addition of ESG-CV funding, the two departments hold weekly meetings since Summer 2020 to plan and allocate ESG-CV funding for the County's response to the Coronavirus while also strategizing to ensure timely expenditure drawdowns and monitoring of subrecipients. The collaboration between the two departments ensured that ESG and ESG-CV funding was allocated efficiently to address homelessness in the CoC.
2) Staff from both County departments regularly participate in CoC meetings. The CoC has a prevailing role in evaluating outcomes for ESG funded activities: determining how to allocate ESG funds for eligible activities, developing performance standards for ESG-assisted activities, and developing funding policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS for ESG funded projects. The Department of Social Services serves as the HMIS Lead and consults with the ESG recipient on HMIS performance data and reporting. The CoC board reviews and recommends which ESG programs should be awarded funds in the annual Action Plans. A member of the CoC staff and a staff member for ESG both serve on the respective grant review committees to evaluate and recommend funded projects.
3) The CoC provides annual PIT/HIC data sorted by geographic areas during the Consolidated Planning process to assist the ESG recipient in determining where ESG resources would be most efficient within the CoC jurisdiction. In addition to the CoC staff, ESG staff also participated in the 2022 Point in Time Count to gain a better perspective of the unsheltered population in the County.
4) In addition to the weekly planning meetings for ESG and ESG-CV programs, the CoC meetings are regularly attended by ESG recipient staff, who obtain information regarding local homelessness priorities from the CoC. The CoC participates in the evaluation and reporting performance of the ESG program recipient and subrecipients.

2C-3.	Discharge Planning Coordination. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.c.	

	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the systems of care listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs.	
1.	Foster Care	Yes
2.	Health Care	Yes
3.	Mental Health Care	Yes
4.	Correctional Facilities	Yes

2C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:	
1.	Youth Education Provider	Yes
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	No
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	Yes
4.	School Districts	Yes

2C-4a.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts–Formal Partnerships. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC collaborates with the entities checked in Question 2C-4; and
2.	the formal partnerships your CoC has with the entities checked in Question 2C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The Local Education Agency (LEA) representative provides training and materials for the CoC on the educational rights of homeless children and youth under the McKinney-Vento Act as well as other relevant statutes, provides an overview of how the LEA and schools can assist, and provides contact information for the LEA's Homeless Education Coordinator as well as Homeless Education liaisons for each school district in the CoC. The LEA representative also provides information on additional educational resources, such as Schoolhouse Connection, that address the educational rights of children experiencing homelessness. The LEA and local school districts provide Point in Time data on homeless children and youth in their districts.

2) The CoC's governance charter reserves two seats on its Board for education partners: one for the Local Education Agency (LEA) and one for a local school district. The CoC includes a requirement in the CoC's contract with the contractor responsible for carrying out the bi-annual Homeless Point in Time Count that the contractor work with the LEA and local schools districts when planning and carrying out the count. Contracts with CoC grant subrecipients also require that the subrecipients take steps to ensure the educational rights of homeless children, including taking the children's educational needs into consideration when placing families in housing. The subrecipients must work closely with the LEA and local school district in order to carry out this responsibility.

2C-4b.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC adopted to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC policies and procedures require that each CoC funded subrecipient shall ensure that when a homeless family with school aged children is placed into housing funded by the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care program, that family will be informed about the children's educational rights under the McKinney-Vento Act. In addition, CoC contracts require the Subrecipient to establish policies and practices that enable program participants to exercise the rights afforded to them under subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Act and other laws relating to the provision of educational and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including designating staff in family projects to ensure that children of program participants are enrolled in school and connected to early childhood programs and other appropriate services.
CoC policies also require that when distributing written materials, subrecipients should only use those produced by local educational agencies, federal agencies, or national, state or local nonprofits with recognized expertise in the education provisions of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Additionally, subrecipients are required to make a good faith effort to coordinate with the County Office of Education to obtain services that may be available under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or other resources intended to assist homeless, school-aged children. Subrecipients must also take into account the educational needs of children when families are placed into emergency or transitional shelter per 24 CFR 578.23(c)(7). To the extent practicable, families with children shall be placed as close as practical to their school of origin so as not to disrupt the children's education. Any barriers should be documented in both the program participant and project files.

2C-5.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Training of Project Staff. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

| | Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains project staff annually on the following mainstream resources available for program participants within your CoC's geographic area: | |

	Mainstream Resource	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
4.	Substance Abuse Programs	No
5.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
6.	Other	

You must select a response for elements 1 through 6 in question 2C-5.

2C-5a.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Collaboration with Project Staff Regarding Healthcare Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	systemically provides up-to-date information on mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations to assist program participants with enrolling in health insurance;
3.	provides assistance to project staff with the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits; and
4.	works with projects to promote SOAR certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC provides written information about mainstream resources at case manager meetings and disseminates public benefits program and policy updates to all subrecipient agencies. The Dept. of Social Services (DSS) also provides training regarding accessing benefits including Food Stamps, TANF, and Medi-Cal. TANF staff participate in the CoC's monthly case managers meeting. The lead Coord. Entry agency also convenes monthly meetings of substance abuse and mental health agencies, CoC and ESG agencies to discuss systemic access to substance abuse treatment.
2) The CoC collaborates with the County Health Agency and Dept. of Social Services to help participants apply for health benefits. DSS can take applications for Medi-Cal over the phone, online, or in person at its offices, and case managers can assist clients to apply over the phone. The County Health Agency provides Health Navigation services by phone. The County's Administrator for Behavioral Health also served on the Steering Committee for the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness (2022-2027) to ensure access to health care was included in the CoC's strategies.
 3) The Medi-Cal Managed Care Agency for the County sits on the CoC's governing board and organizes monthly care coordination meetings with CoC and ESG subrecipients and health providers.
4) Our PSH provider receives SAMHSA funding and their case managers receive SOAR trainings and certification. The CoC promotes the benefits of SOAR training and certification in the CoC committee meetings and CoC and ESG providers are directed to links to access the free online SOAR training and certification modules.

3A. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
 - 24 CFR part 578
 - Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
 - Section 3 Resources
 - Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. (Rural Set Aside Only).	
	Special NOFO Section VII.A.	

If the answer to the question below is yes, you must upload the CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project(s) under the Rural Set Aside for housing rehabilitation or new construction costs?	No

3B. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	

	Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No

3B-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	
	You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below:	
1.	how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and	
2.	how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

4A. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

		Please read the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:
	1.	You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete.
	2.	You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes'
	3.	We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported–please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images and reduces file size. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print Option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube.
	4.	Attachments must match the questions they are associated with.
	5.	Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed–including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process.
	6.	If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either. - We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time). - We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment.
	7.	Open attachments once uploaded to ensure they are the correct attachment for the required Document Type.

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1B-1. Local Competition Announcement	Yes	Local Competition...	10/18/2022
1B-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local Competition...	10/18/2022
1B-3. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	Notification of P...	10/18/2022
1B-3a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	Notification of P...	10/18/2022
1B-4. Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application	Yes		
3A-1. CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs	No		
3B-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
P-1. Leveraging Housing Commitment	No		
P-1a. PHA Commitment	No		
P-3. Healthcare Leveraging Commitment	No		
P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter	No		
Plan. CoC Plan	Yes		

Submission Summary

Ensure that the Special NOFO Project Priority List is complete prior to submitting.

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	09/12/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/18/2022
2A. System Performance	10/06/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/12/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/07/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	09/12/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required