

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Policy Development and Research

HUD's FY 2024 and FY 2025 Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) FR-6800-N-06 06/20/2024

Signature	Date	

Table of Contents

OVERVIEW	3
I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION	3
A. Program Description	3
B. Authority	22
II. AWARD INFORMATION	22
A. Available Funds	22
B. Number of Awards	24
C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information	24
D. Period of Performance.	24
E. Type of Funding Instrument	25
III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	25
A. Eligible Applicants	25
B. Ineligible Applicants	27
C. Cost Sharing or Matching.	27
D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements	27
E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility	29
F. Program-Specific Requirements	29
G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.	34
IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION	35
A. Obtain an Application Package	35
B. Content and Form of Application Submission	35
C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)	46
D. Application Submission Dates and Times	47
E. Intergovernmental Review	50
F. Funding Restrictions	50
V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION	52
A. Review Criteria	52
B. Review and Selection Process	64
VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION	67
A. Award Notices	67
B. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Applicants and Recipients of Financial Assistance Awards	70
C. Reporting	

D. Debriefing	74
VII. AGENCY CONTACT(S)	74
VIII. OTHER INFORMATION	
APPENDIX	75

Program Office:

Policy Development and Research

Funding Opportunity Title:

HUD's FY 2024 and FY 2025 Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Funding Opportunity Number:

FR-6800-N-06

Assistance Listing Number:

14.259

Due Date for Applications:

06/20/2024

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issues this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to invite applications from eligible applicants for the program and purpose described within this NOFO. You, as a prospective applicant, should carefully read all instructions in all sections to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible application. HUD funding is highly competitive. Failure to respond accurately to any submission requirement could result in an incomplete, ineligible, or noncompetitive proposal.

In accordance with <u>Title 24 part 4</u>, <u>subpart B</u> of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), during the selection process (which includes HUD's NOFO development and publication, and concludes with the announcement of the selection of recipients of assistance), HUD is prohibited from disclosing covered selection information. Examples of impermissible disclosures include: 1) information regarding any applicant's relative standing; 2) the amount of assistance requested by any applicant; and 3) any information contained in the application. Prior to the application deadline, HUD may not disclose the identity of any applicant or the number of applicants who have applied for assistance.

For further information regarding this NOFO, direct questions regarding the specific requirements of this NOFO to the agency contact identified in section VII.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. §§ 3501- 3520) (PRA), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the information collection requirements in this NOFO. HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. This NOFO identifies the applicable OMB control number, unless the collection of information is excluded from these requirements under 5 CFR Part 1320.

OMB Control Number(s):

2528-0348

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Program Description

1. Purpose

Through this NOFO, HUD is announcing the availability of approximately \$91,000,000 in total funding including \$88,500,000 in FY 2024 funding for its Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program (Community Compass) and up to \$2,500,000 in FY

2023 Departmental Technical Assistance funding for the Thriving Communities Technical Assistance program (TCTA). We reserve the right to award FY 2025 Community Compass funds based on this single NOFO competition.

Community Compass is HUD's integrated technical assistance (TA) and capacity building initiative. Community Compass helps customers navigate complex housing and community development challenges. It equips them with knowledge, skills, tools, and capacity to implement HUD's programs and policies. Community Compass provides effective administrative and managerial oversight of HUD funding. Community Compass is centrally managed by HUD Headquarters with the involvement of our Regional, Field, and Area Offices.

HUD's TCTA program helps local governments address pressing housing needs by identifying land for housing development near transportation projects; developing preservation and anti-displacement strategies; identifying and implementing reforms to reduce barriers to location-efficient housing; and improving coordination and supporting a holistic approach to housing and transportation.

We recognize that our customers often interact with a variety of HUD programs, and other federal programs servicing common customers, as they deliver housing or community development services. Community Compass brings together TA investments from across HUD program offices, including the offices of Community Planning and Development, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Housing, and Public and Indian Housing. This cross-funding approach allows TA to address the needs of grantees and subgrantees, often within the same engagement, and promotes intra- and inter-agency issue resolution. You are encouraged to procure contractors and consultants that demonstrate experience across a wide variety of HUD programs, as well as in specific skill and policy areas related to HUD programs. Through this NOFO, HUD will also address the TA needs of some emerging priorities that include: community violence intervention, implementation of and compliance with the Violence Against Women Act's (VAWA) 2022 Reauthorization, climate resilience, housing needs of youth, and environmental reviews. It is highly encouraged that applicants assemble a diverse team of professionals and people with lived experience from the communities HUD serves. Their perspectives can add immeasurable value in the development and delivery of technical assistance.

a. Background

In March 2022, the HUD Secretary published the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. Within the context of the Secretary's vision to support underserved communities, this NOFO invites competitive applications for three funding years: FY 2023 (TCTA), FY 2024 Community Compass and FY 2025 Community Compass. This means that a single application may request funding from one, two, or three funding years. Eligible applicants will submit a single SF424 but must clearly identify the amount requested for each funding year in its application summary; see requirements in NOFO section IV.B.1.a. Along with significantly reducing the burden for applicants, this funding process should enable HUD to make FY 2025 awards through the same NOFO.

We will use the applications received through this NOFO and the resulting application scores to make awards for FY 2023 TCTA and FY 2024 Community Compass. We will use the same scores and award methodology to make new Community Compass awards for FY 2025 appropriations. HUD also reserves the right to issue a supplemental or independent FY 2025 Community Compass Program NOFO if necessary (e.g., to accommodate a new TA priority or

new funding source). When making awards, we will consider your remaining Community Compass funds and your performance under prior Community Compass awards, including declined or delayed assignments or unacceptable TA engagements.

Additional funds may also become available for award under this NOFO, such as supplemental funding appropriated for Community Development Block Grant -Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) technical assistance.

b. TA Focus Areas

We expect to focus our TA efforts and available funding on the programs listed for each HUD Office in the Category A Technical Assistance Focus Areas table located in Appendix I. The table also notes the corresponding funding source(s). Since overlap often occurs among these HUD Offices and programs, we encourage you to explain your experience working across HUD Offices, as appropriate.

As new HUD priorities and customer needs emerge during the period of performance for a TA award, TA assignments may address additional HUD programmatic or policy areas that are not listed in Appendix I, including major grants, assistance, and regulatory programs that may be supported by Community Compass TA.

c. Community Compass Eligible Activities

Eligible activities for the Community Compass program are specified below. Successful applicants may be tasked to use one or more of these activities to provide technical assistance pursuant to the purposes of the Community Compass program. These activities are subject to any restrictions or limitations imposed by the federal regulations, statutes, and requirements referenced in this NOFO or by the regulations and requirements governing the program(s) under which the technical assistance is funded.

i. Needs Assessments. Needs assessments are intended to help determine the nature and scope of TA and capacity building needed by HUD customers. Needs assessments may also assist customers with quantifying the impact of affordable housing and community and economic development or disaster recovery initiatives and identifying local market conditions so that program resources may be better targeted and leveraged. In some instances, a self-assessment by the customer or a Field Office assessment may provide a satisfactory basis for determining the scope and scale of technical and capacity building assistance; in other cases, a TA provider will conduct on-site or remote needs assessments to collect information about the capacity gaps of the identified customer. A needs assessment may use multiple information collection and analysis tools, such as the Consolidated Plan, Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) or Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting (DRGR) reports, Public Housing Annual Plan, Indian Housing Plan, Tribal Performance Assessments, Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Assessments, Assessment of Fair Housing, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice or any fair housing plan required pursuant to Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rulemaking, Point-In-Time Counts of the homeless, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data, Continuum of Care (CoC) application information, HUD monitoring results, energy audits, capital needs assessments, annual financial audits, funds obligation and expenditures, CPD Maps, and interviews with grantees and HUD staff.

- **ii. Direct TA and Capacity Building Engagements**. Direct TA and capacity building require working onsite and/or remotely with HUD's customers and their subrecipients to improve HUD program knowledge and staff capacity in one or more of the programs and/or cross-cutting issues noted in the "Technical Assistance Focus Areas" table in Appendix I. Direct TA also includes the operation of one or more virtual help desks and addressing questions and issues raised by HUD's customers.
- iii. Develop and Maintain Tools and Products. Tools and products developed will use adult learning principles to assist HUD customers with understanding existing, revised, or new program statutes and regulations, as well as other federal requirements (e.g., Davis-Bacon wage rates, Section 3, civil rights compliance, environmental justice and environmental standards, Limited English Proficiency [LEP] requirements, accessibility for persons with disabilities, ConnectHome and federal immigration and naturalization law) that apply to these programs. HUD employs virtual training and TA as a cost-effective way to reach diverse audiences and address the constantly changing needs of customers and program requirements. These products might take the form of web-based courses or trainings, videos, interactive tools, and webinars. Tool and product development may also include the creation of templates, desk guides, toolkits, and curricula that improve program management and operations, evaluation, and performance measurement. Where appropriate, HUD program and other federal requirements, such as fair housing and civil rights, will be integrated into comprehensive products to serve the TA needs of a broad range of program partners. All products and tools developed must comply with Section 508 accessibility requirements. Development and maintenance of tools and products could include translating existing materials into other languages.
- iv. Self-Directed and Group Learning. Self-directed and group learning is intended to increase the capacity and close competency gaps of HUD's customers and their subrecipients by equipping them with the necessary program knowledge and skills needed to administer and manage HUD programs. Group learning will incorporate adult learning principles that may include delivery of HUD-approved training courses remotely or in person; online self-directed courses; problem-solving clinics; policy academies; live or pre-recorded webinars; and peer-to-peer assistance exchanges for customers with similar local market contexts, challenges, opportunities, and community needs. Group learning could include establishing and supporting group learning cohorts and curricula, such as communities of practice. In-person group learning must take place in facilities that are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. Remote activities must be provided in an accessible format that is readily usable by individuals with disabilities.
- v. Knowledge Management. Knowledge management consists of capacity building for HUD's customers on a) the development, maintenance, and operation of websites, website platforms, and web-based systems for information or learning management to organize, publish, and disseminate technical assistance resources or, b) activities to encourage consumption of technical assistance resources, through marketing, promotion, outreach, and customer engagement. Awards under this NOFO will not provide maintenance or developmental or operational support for any HUD program databases, websites or systems, including but not limited to IDIS, DRGR, or e-snaps that are the responsibility of HUD.
- vi. Data analysis, reporting, and performance measurement. This activity includes TA and training that help customers analyze data and understand data trends; use data to inform and

revise plans and strategies; use performance measurement and reporting tools; create datasharing partnerships and agreements; and collect, report, and use accurate and valid data on programs, activities, and beneficiaries.

This eligible activity includes, but is not limited to, technical assistance and training for CoCs and recipients on how to collect, analyze, use, manage, report, and communicate about data that is critical for measuring and meeting local objectives related to ending homelessness. This TA funding provides support to CoCs to achieve the highest level of performance and results for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and comparable database implementation, including improving the capacity of persons charged with setting up and operating HMIS implementations; ensuring that HMIS collects accurate, comprehensive, and timely data; and supporting CoCs and stakeholders to use homeless data to improve efforts to end homelessness. It could also support HUD customers track and analyze utility consumption and resilience to climate hazards to make informed decisions about capital investments.

This funding also provides technical assistance to CoCs for HMIS software management and operation, HMIS governance, standardized data collection for HUD-required reporting, system performance measurement and analysis, and system modeling.

Under the National Homeless Data Analysis Project (NHDAP), eligible activities include Administrative activities, Coordination activities, HMIS TA, and the following four projects:

- Sage HMIS Reporting Repository (Sage). Supports the stable and secure operation of the Sage, a virtual aggregate-data environment for CoC and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program recipients' performance reports. Provides an interface to receive CoC and ESG funded projects' .CSV files, converted into performance reports for local use and for HUD. Eligible activities include maintaining, operating, updating, and hosting Sage; data cleaning and importing; data analysis and reporting. providing Sage specific short term Technical Assistance such as, but not limited to the development of tools and products using adult learning principles to assist Customers with understanding Sage reporting and usage (i.e., Sage User Manual, APR Guidebook, CAPER Guidebook, etc.,) and the creation and delivery of trainings and other knowledge transfer methods (i.e., conducting Sage user trainings, working one-on-one, remotely, with Sage customer support, Sage presentations, etc.).
- National HMIS Data Lab. Supports the configuration of HMIS and comparable databases to collect local homeless and service data in a standardized fashion; increasing confidence that the software chosen in the private marketplace accurately collects and stores data; and produce reliable reports. Eligible activities include testing of HMIS and comparable database data and performance impacts related homeless federal policy and program changes; maintaining and using a stable HMIS software application(s) with test data in a controlled environment to test changes to the HMIS programming specifications; providing HMIS test kits to the public; short term Technical Assistance such as, but not limited to the development of tools and products using adult learning principles (i.e., programming specifications, HMIS data dictionary, glossary, mapping, and manuals, HMIS Test kits, etc.,) and the creation and delivery of trainings and other knowledge transfer methods (i.e., conducting monthly vendor and system administration office hours, working one-on-one, remotely, with Data Lab customer support, HMIS Data Lab presentations, etc.).

Page 7 of 89

- Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) and Homeless Data Exchange (HDX). Supports the AHAR, a report from HUD to the U.S. Congress that provides nationwide estimates of homelessness based on data during a 12-month period, point-in-time (PIT) counts and the inventory of shelter and housing available in a community, the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). Provides an interface for recipients to submit PIT count, HIC, System Performance Measures (SPM), and Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) data to Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX) 1.0 or 2.0, an aggregate reporting repository. Eligible activities include assisting CoC with local data quality improvements; receiving, processing and analyzing data; converting data for Stella community use; producing national reports (i.e., AHAR Part 1, AHAR Part 2, and SPM reports, etc.,); maintaining, operating, updating and hosting HDX 1.0 and HDX 2.0; and short term Technical Assistance such as, but not limited to, developing tools and products related to AHAR and HDX (i.e., LSA Programming Specifications, PIT/HIC Data Submission Guidance, etc.,); delivering trainings and other knowledge transfer methods (i.e., LSA office hours, AHAR and HDX presentations, etc.).
- HMIS Data and Technical Standards. Supports HMIS Standards applied to HUD, US Department of Veteran Affairs, and US Department of Health and Human Services homeless programs, which represents a collective benefit to federal grantees. The HMIS Standards do not constitute an information system or IT investment owned, operated, or maintained by HUD. HMIS Standards support Customers with collecting housing and service data that conforms to standard definitions, with the same content and format. Eligible activities include, facilitating end-to-end data and technical standards change process such as, but not limited to, coordinating review and approval process; providing technical services; delivering short term technical assistance on how to use the HMIS Standards, developing related tools and products (i.e., CoC Program Manual, HMIS Logic Model, online HMIS Data Standards Interactive Tool, etc.,); and delivering trainings and other knowledge transfer methods (i.e., conducting federal partner and stakeholder meetings, working one-on-one, remotely, with HMIS Standards customer support, etc.).

This eligible activity also includes support for performance tracking and reporting required under section 407 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA), as authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024.

vii. NAHASDA Allocation Formula Administration and Negotiated Rulemaking and Consultation Support. Support for administration of the Indian Housing Block Grant Allocation Formula and related formula negotiated rulemaking, as authorized under the Negotiated Rulemaking Act (5 U.S.C. 565(c)) and Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, including administration of the allocation formula, assistance with formula determinations, census challenges, notification letters, and data correction and reports, administration of performance tracking and reporting under section 407 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4167), as well as consultation assistance to the Department for all negotiated rulemaking with Indian tribes and any other required tribal consultation.

viii. Administrative. Administrative activities are directly associated with overall award management and execution, including salaries and benefits of persons who support the execution of the award terms. Costs include preparing reports for submission to HUD, obtaining program audits, and general operating costs when billed directly. Administrative costs are not allowable

as direct award execution charges when these costs are included in a selected applicant organization's negotiated indirect cost rate agreement or when the organization is using the de minimis rate. Refer to section VI.A.5. of this NOFO for administrative cost limits applicable to award execution costs.

Certain administrative costs are not considered to be award execution costs and are not subject to the administrative limits in this NOFO. For example, the salary and fringe benefits for the Program Manager assigned to oversee the outcome of a specific TA engagement are considered part of the TA engagement costs and are not included in the award execution costs. Rental and maintenance of office space is allowed only under the following conditions:

- The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible for a person with disabilities.
- No repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with funds provided under this NOFO.
- Properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased or rented with federal funds.

ix. Coordination. Coordination activities consist of services related to coordinating technical assistance with other award recipients and planning technical assistance engagements, including data gathering, studies, and analysis, and the identification of actions that will implement such plans. Coordination enables successful applicants to:

- Determine needs and capacity gaps to address with HUD customers, including addressing needs across multiple HUD programs.
- Set long-term goals and short-term objectives for technical assistance plans.
- Devise products and activities to meet these goals and objectives.
- Evaluate the progress of such programs and activities in accomplishing these goals and objectives.
- Participate in peer learning with other TA providers.
- Carry out management, coordination, and monitoring of activities necessary for effective planning implementation, but excluding the costs necessary to implement such plans.

Coordination also covers activities associated with participation on the TA Provider Advisory Council (TPAC). Members of the TPAC will act as a ready resource to advise and test new business and system requirements established by the Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) prior to implementation for all Community Compass providers, and present best practices during new award recipient orientation sessions. HUD will continue to establish protocols and requirements and train new award recipients through a series of live onboarding sessions and ongoing engagements between the recipient and the Government Technical Representative (GTR). If necessary to share best practices, HUD will pair new providers with existing TPAC providers with a demonstrated track record of successful compliance with the requirements. For example, a best practice to share could involve configuring off-the-shelf financial management systems to be responsive to the administrative requirements HUD has established and trained upon. HUD expects to select 2-3 Providers to be a part of the TPAC. Only existing Community Compass recipients are eligible for TPAC membership.

2. HUD and Program-Specific Goals and Objectives

HUD's Strategic Plan sets the direction and focus of our programs and staff to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality, affordable homes for all. This NOFO supports HUD's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2022-2026 to accomplish HUD's mission and vision. Each of the five goals in the Strategic Plan include what HUD hopes to accomplish, the strategies to accomplish those objectives, and the indicators of success.

HUD will pursue two overarching priorities focused on increasing equity and improving customer experience across all HUD programs. Five strategic goals and several objectives undergird the Plan; however the following goals are applicable to this NOFO.

You are expected to align your application to the applicable strategic goals and objectives below. Use the information in this section to describe in your application the specific goals, objectives, and measures that your project is expected to help accomplish. If your project is selected for funding, you are also expected to establish a plan to track progress related to those goals, objectives, and measures. HUD will monitor compliance with the goals, objectives, and measures in your project.

Applicable Goals and Objectives from HUD's Strategic Plan

Strategic Goal 1: Support Underserved Communities

Fortify support for underserved communities and support equitable community development for all people.

1A: Advance Housing Justice

Fortify support for vulnerable populations, underserved communities, and Fair Housing enforcement.

1B: Reduce Homelessness

Strengthen Federal, State, Tribal, and community implementation of the Housing First approach to reducing the prevalence of homelessness, with the ultimate goal of ending homelessness.

1C: Invest in the Success of Communities

Promote equitable community development that generates wealth-building for underserved communities, particularly for communities of color.

Strategic Goal 2: Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing Ensure housing demand is matched by adequate production of new homes and equitable access

to housing opportunities for all people.

2A: Increase the Supply of Housing

Enhance HUD's programs that increase the production and supply of housing across the country.

2B: Improve Rental Assistance

Improve rental assistance to address the need for affordable housing.

Strategic Goal 3: Promote Homeownership

Promote homeownership opportunities, equitable access to credit for purchase and improvements, and wealth-building in underserved communities.

3A: Advance Sustainable Homeownership

Advance the deployment of tools and capital that put sustainable homeownership within reach.

3A: Major Initiative: Expand Homeownership Opportunities

Promote financing for innovative ownership models to increase the availability of affordable housing.

3B: Create a More Accessible and Inclusive Housing Finance System

Advance new policy, programs, and modernization initiatives that support a more equitable housing finance system. Promote the preservation and creation of affordable housing stock.

Strategic Goal 4: Advance Sustainable Communities

Advance sustainable communities by strengthening climate resilience and energy efficiency, promoting environmental justice, and recognizing housing's role as essential to health.

4A: Guide Investment in Climate Resilience

Invest in climate resilience, energy efficiency, and renewable energy across HUD programs.

4B: Strengthen Environmental Justice

Reduce exposure to health risks, environmental hazards, and substandard housing, especially for low-income households and communities of color.

4C: Integrate Health and Housing

Advance policies that recognize housing's role as essential to health.

Within the context of the Secretary's vision to support underserved communities, this NOFO invites competitive applications for three funding years: FY 2023 TCTA, FY 2024 Community Compass, and FY 2025 Community Compass. Recipients of this funding provide training and technical assistance to HUD customers to build their capacity to successfully navigate HUD programs in support of each strategic goal in the Strategic Plan.

3. Changes from Previous NOFO

Summary of changes to the general text for all NOFOs (i.e., NOFO Template)

The FY24/25 Departmental NOFO template does not include significant changes with a material impact on applicant submissions.

Summary of changes specific to Community Compass

The FY24/25 NOFO does not make significant changes with a material impact on applicant submissions.

Appendix I: The list of programs/cross-cutting topics was updated to reflect FY24 appropriations and program priorities.

Appendix II: New programs were added to the list of specialized programs/topics.

Application Organization Template: Applicants are now required to organize their applications according to the Application Organization Template.

Budget Form: HUD now requires form HUD-424-CB from all applicants. Instructions for completing the form are provided in section IV.B.

Funding: Funding amounts are different from the FY 2022/2023 NOFO and reflect current year appropriations, additional TA funds from other sources, and available carryover funding.

This NOFO will award FY23 (TCTA), FY24 Community Compass, and FY25 Community Compass program funds. Previously, TCTA was awarded through a separate NOFO from Community Compass.

Explanation added to detail how requested funding source information is considered by HUD and to clarify that the total federal funding requested does not guarantee an award allocation equal to the requested amount. The total federal funding requested is an indication to HUD of your organization's capacity and HUD will not fund more than stated.

Program-Specific Requirements: New program-specific requirements were added for applicants applying to certain programs.

Unscored responses: Language added to exclude unscored responses from the 50-page limit for narrative responses. Language added to clarify that applicants should not submit narratives for Rating Factor 2 or Rating Factor 3 as part of their unscored response. A new requirement added to limit the total number of unscored responses to eight.

Rating Factors: Points for Subfactors 1A, 1B, 1D, and 1E have changed from the FY22/23 NOFO. Rating Factor 1A is now worth a total of 10 points (from 8), Rating Factor 1B is now worth 13 points (from 10), Rating Factor 1D is now worth 10 points (from 12), and Rating Factor 1E is now worth 10 points (from 13). The 51 total points available for Rating Factor 1 is unchanged from FY22/23.

Language was added to Rating Factor 2 to clarify that the engagement(s) described in Rating Factor 2 can be different from those described in Rating Factor 3, but the engagements must align with the programs/cross-cutting topics described in Rating Factor 1. Corresponding language was added to Rating Factor 3.

Rating Factor 2 point distribution was revised so that all 29 points are available for substantive narrative response questions. The FY22/23 NOFO awarded up to 4 points for basic engagement description elements.

4. Definitions

a. Standard Definitions

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination to overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunities, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all program participant's activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.

Assistance Listing number refers to the unique number assigned to each Federal assistance program publicly available in the Assistance Listing, which is managed and administered by the General Services Administration. The Assistance Listing number was formerly known as the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number.

Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) is a person authorized to legally bind your organization and submit applications via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) in the System for Award Management (see E-Biz POC definition). An AOR may include an Expanded AOR and/or a Standard AOR.

Expanded Authorized Organization Representative is a user in Grants.gov who is authorized by the E-Biz POC to perform the functions of a Standard AOR, initiate and submit applications on behalf of your organization, and is allowed to modify organization-level settings and certifications in Grants.gov.

Standard Authorized Organization Representative is a user in Grants.gov who is authorized by the E-Biz POC to initiate and submit applications in Grants.gov. A Grants.gov user with the Standard AOR role can only submit applications when they are a Participant for that workspace.

Consolidated Plan is the document submitted to HUD that serves as the comprehensive housing affordability strategy, community development plan, and submission for funding under any of the Community Planning and Development formula grant programs (e.g., CDBG, ESG, HOME, and HOPWA). This Plan is prepared in accordance with the process described in 24 CFR part 91. This plan is completed by engaging in a participatory process to assess affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions with funding from formula grant programs. (See 24 CFR part 91 for HUD's requirements regarding the Consolidated Plan and related Action Plan).

Contract means, for the purpose of Federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. For additional information on contractor and subrecipient determinations, see <u>2 CFR 200.331</u>.

Contractor means an entity that receives a contract as defined above and in 2 CFR 200.1.

Cooperative agreement has the same meaning defined at <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>.

Deficiency, with respect to the making of an application for funding, is information missing or omitted within a submitted application. Examples of deficiencies include missing documents, missing or incomplete information on a form, or some other type of unsatisfied information requirement. Depending on specific criteria, a deficiency may be either Curable or Non-Curable.

A Curable Deficiency is missing or incomplete application information that may be corrected by the applicant with timely action. To be curable, the deficiency must:

- Not be a threshold requirement, except for documentation of applicant eligibility;
- Not influence how an applicant is ranked or scored versus other applicants; and
- Be remedied within the time frame specified in the notice of deficiency.

A Non-Curable Deficiency is missing or incomplete application information that cannot be corrected by an applicant after the submission deadline. A non-curable deficiency is a deficiency that is a threshold requirement, or a deficiency that, if corrected, would change an applicant's score or rank versus other applicants. If an application includes a non-curable deficiency, the application may receive an ineligible determination, or the non-curable

deficiency may otherwise adversely affect the application's score and final funding determination.

E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) is an individual associated with the applicant organization who is responsible for the administration and management of award activities for the applicant organization. The E-Biz POC is likely to be an organization's chief financial officer or authorizing official. The E-Biz POC authorizes representatives of their organization to apply on behalf of the organization (see Authorized Organization Representative definition). There can only be one E-Biz POC per unique entity identifier (see definition of Unique Entity Identifier below).

Eligibility requirements are mandatory requirements for an application to be eligible for funding.

Environmental Justice means investing in environmental improvements, remedying past environmental inequities, and otherwise developing, implementing, and enforcing environmental laws and policies in a manner that advances equity and provides meaningful involvement for people and communities that have been environmentally underserved or overburdened, such as Black and Brown communities, indigenous groups, and individuals with disabilities. This definition does not alter the requirements under HUD's regulations at 24 CFR 58.5(j) and 24 CFR 50.4(l) implementing Executive Order 12898. E.O. 12898 requires a consideration of how Federally assisted projects may have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and/or low-income populations. For additional information on environmental review compliance, refer to:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/environment_energy/regulations.

Equity has the meaning given to that term in Section 2(a) of Executive Order 13985 and means the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

Federal award, has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraphs (1) or (2) of this definition:

(1)

- (a) The Federal financial assistance that a recipient receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in <u>2 CFR 200.101</u>; or
- (b) The cost-reimbursement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulations that a non- Federal entity receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass- through entity, as described in <u>2 CFR 200.101</u>.
- (2) The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (2) of the definitions of Federal financial assistance in <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>, and this NOFO, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the Federal Acquisition Regulations.

- (3) Federal award does not include other contracts that a Federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate Federal Government owned, contractor operated facilities (GOCOs).
- (4) See also definitions of Federal financial assistance, grant agreement, and cooperative agreement in 2 CFR 200.1.

Federal Financial Assistance has the same meaning defined at 2 CFR 200.1.

Grants.gov is the website serving as the Federal government's central portal for searching and applying for Federal financial assistance throughout the Federal government. Registration on Grants.gov is required for submission of applications to prospective agencies unless otherwise specified in this NOFO.

Green and Resilient Building Standard means an industry-recognized standard incorporating both:

- (1) Certification under (i) Enterprise Green Communities, (ii) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) (New Construction, Homes, Midrise, Existing Buildings Operations and Maintenance, or Neighborhood Development), (iii) International Code Council (ICC)-700 National Green Building Standard Green+ Resilience; or the (iv) Living Building Challenge, or (v) a regional standard such as Earth Advantage New Homes; or (vi) any other equivalent comprehensive green building program acceptable to HUD; and
- (2) Minimum energy efficiency requirements, such as those defined in (i) ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes or Multifamily High-Rise), (ii) DOE Zero Energy Ready Home; (iii) Passive House Institute Passive Building or EnerPHit certification from the Passive House Institute US (PHIUS), International Passive House Association; or (iv) any other equivalent energy efficiency standard acceptable to HUD.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are any historically Black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary of Education to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation. A list of accredited HBCUs can be found at the U.S. Department of Education's website.

Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) are

- (1) a part B institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1061(2));
- (2) a Hispanic-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1101a(5));
- (3) a Tribal College or University (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1059c(b)(3));
- (4) an Alaska Native-serving institution or a Native Hawaiian-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1059d(b));
- (5) a Predominantly Black Institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1059e(b)(6));
- (6) an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1059g(b)(2)); or

(7) a Native American-serving nontribal institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1059f(b)(2)).

Non-Federal Entity (NFE) means a state, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE), or non-profit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

Primary Point of Contact (PPOC) is the person who may be contacted with questions about the application submitted by the AOR. The PPOC is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

Racial Equity is the elimination of racial disparities and is achieved when race can no longer predict opportunities, distribution of resources, or outcomes – particularly for Black and Brown persons.

Recipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a Federal award directly from HUD. The term recipient does not include subrecipients or individuals that are beneficiaries of the award.

Small business is defined as a privately-owned corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship that has fewer employees and less annual revenue than regular-sized business. The definition of "small"—in terms of being able to apply for government support and qualify for preferential tax policy—varies by country and industry. The U.S. Small Business Administration defines a small business according to a set of standards based on specific industries. See <u>13 CFR part 121</u>.

Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

Subrecipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal award but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.

System for Award Management (SAM) is the Federal Repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Registration with SAM is required for submission of applications via Grants.gov. You can access the website at https://www.sam.gov/SAM/. There is no cost to use SAM.

Threshold Requirements are eligibility requirements that must be met for an application to be reviewed, rated, and ranked. Threshold requirements are not curable, except for documentation of applicant eligibility, which are listed in Section III.D., Threshold Eligibility Requirements. Similarly, there are eligibility requirements under Section III.E., Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

Underserved Communities has the meaning given to that term in Section 2(b) of Executive Order 13985 and refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the definition of "equity" above.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify entities. As of April 4, 2022, the Federal government has transitioned from the use of the DUNS

Number to the use of UEI, as the primary means of entity identification for Federal awards government-wide.

b. Program Definitions.

Capacity Building: Assistance which increases the ability of HUD's customers and their partners to organize and independently implement and manage affordable housing, community development, and economic development programs.

Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery TA (CDBG-DR TA): This TA increases the capacity of CDBG-DR recipients to deliver timely assistance to beneficiaries and to comply with program and cross-cutting requirements.

Community Violence Intervention (CVI) TA: TA provided to HUD customers to support HUD's CVI policy. CVIs are place-based preventative interventions focused on reducing the harm caused by violence (including gun violence) by targeting high-risk places and high-risk people for services and a variety of service-delivery engagements intended to mitigate risk. At the core of CVI is the implementation of evidence-based practices like hospital-based violence interventions, violence interrupters, and built and physical environment modifications.

Consultant: An individual who is able to provide valuable and pertinent advice generally drawn from a high degree of broad administrative, professional, or technical knowledge or experience.

Cooperative Agreement: A legal instrument of financial assistance, as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, that is used to enter into the same kind of relationship as a grant but is distinguished from a grant in that it provides for substantial involvement between the Federal agency and the recipient in carrying out the activity contemplated by the award and in accordance with 2 CFR 200.

Culturally Specific (*under VAWA*): Primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups, as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-6(g)). 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8).

Customers: Current recipients of HUD funding, including state and local government, PHAs, owners and managers of HUD-assisted housing, CoCs, non-profit organizations, HMIS Leads, HUD-approved housing counseling agencies and counselors, legal service providers, tribal organizations, Indian tribes, tribally-designated housing entities (TDHEs), FHA-approved multifamily lenders developers, residents and participants in HUD-funded programs, academic institutions, quasi-government entities.

Decarbonization TA: Cross-Departmental TA that supports HUD customers meeting the Department's decarbonization policies that assists customers while carrying out their affordable housing and community development activities.

Demand-Response System: The means by which HUD, its customers, and/or its partners identify TA and capacity building needs. HUD prioritizes the identified needs based on Departmental, programmatic, and jurisdictional priorities. HUD will then task successful applicants with responding to identified needs. TA providers do not respond to direct requests for TA from HUD customers. HUD is solely responsible for authorizing the entities to be assisted, the location of assistance, and the nature of the assistance to be provided, including a specific scope of work, which must be part of a HUD-approved work plan for each engagement.

Departmental TA: Cross-Departmental TA funding appropriated through the Research and Technology account managed by the Office of Policy Development and Research. This funding supports TA across the Department's programs and customers, including, but not limited to, PHAs, cities, tribes and TDHEs, multifamily owners and operators, non-profit organizations receiving HUD funding, and housing counseling agencies.

Disadvantaged Communities: (1) Any tribal land or any territory or possession of the United States and (2) those census tracts (a) experiencing disproportionate effects (as defined by Executive Order 12898); (b) that contain areas of persistent poverty as defined in 49 U.S.C. section 6702(a)(1); (c) that are historically disadvantaged as defined by CEQ's Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool and DOT's Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer mapping tool for Historically Disadvantaged Communities; or (d) other federally designated community development zones.

Energy Building Standards: Standards for building energy usage that are measurable, verifiable, and certified by a third party as part of a certification process. For the purpose of this NOFO, the standards of interest are Energy Star (EPA); Zero Energy Ready (DOE), Net Zero (ILFI) and Passive House (PHI).

Environmental Review encompasses the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities analyzed for HUD projects listed at 24 CFR 58.5/58.6 and 24 CFR 50.3(i) and 50.4. The environmental review process is required for all HUD-assisted projects to ensure that the proposed project does not have an adverse effect on health or the surrounding environment. HUD's environmental review regulations can be found at 24 CFR Part 50 and 58.

Government Technical Monitor (GTM): As defined by HUD, the individual designated to provide technical monitoring, advice, and assistance to aid the Government Technical Representative (GTR) in the technical direction and evaluation of a successful applicant's performance. The GTM provides programmatic expertise and input to proposed TA work plans, status reports, invoices, and products. In some offices, the Program Office Technical Assistance Coordinator (POTAC) for a TA provider fulfills this role rather than a GTM.

Government Technical Representative (GTR): As defined by HUD, the individual (a HUD employee) who is responsible for the technical direction and evaluation of a successful applicant's performance. The GTR is responsible for review and approval of work plans, status reports, invoices, and products. GTRs serve as representatives of the Cooperative Agreement Officer who has responsibility for the management and fiscal oversight of the cooperative agreement awards.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities – Center of Excellence (HBCU/COE): An HBCU/COE is a grantee funded by HUD to conduct housing and community development research at an institution of higher learning designated by the Higher Education Act of 1965 as an HBCU.

Hispanic Serving Institution – Center of Excellence (HSI/COE): An HSI/COE is a grantee funded by HUD to conduct housing and community development research at an institution of higher learning designated by the Department of Education as an HSI.

Indirect cost rate proposal: This NOFO adopts the definition of indirect cost rate proposal as found at 2 CFR 200.1.

Indirect costs: This NOFO adopts the definition of indirect (facilities and administrative (F&A)) costs as found at 2 CFR 200.56.

Instructional Design: The practice of designing, creating, and delivering instructional experiences and materials for a specific audience. In the TA context, principles of instructional design include analyzing instructional needs, designing learning objectives and instructional strategies, developing instructional content and materials, implementing instructional strategies, and evaluating results of the instruction provided.

Leveraging Healthcare and Services TA: This McKinney-Vento TA supports efforts between HUD and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide direct TA to CoC and ESG communities leveraging programs, such as Medicaid, to cover and provide housing-related supportive services and behavioral healthcare.

Manufactured Housing Communities TA: TA to resident-owned manufactured housing communities, owners and residents of manufactured housing and communities, and units of general local government or States that have manufactured housing in their community or are looking to expand manufactured housing opportunities.

McKinney-Vento TA: This TA increases the effectiveness of implementing and administering Continuum of Care (CoC) planning processes, improves capacity to prepare collaborative applications, prevents the separation of families in projects funded under the Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) and CoC grants programs, and adopts and provides best practices in housing and services for persons experiencing homelessness.

National Fair Housing Training Academy (NFHTA): NFHTA trains current and future fair housing professionals, including but not limited to state and local government agencies participating in the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP agencies) and partner fair housing organizations participating in the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP recipients) on conducting investigations under the Fair Housing Act. NFHTA creates and delivers innovative curricula, tools, and resources to inspire and prepare fair housing professionals to achieve success. NFHTA offers different training delivery options, such as peer-to-peer mentoring, online instruction, and in-person hands-on training where students solve real-world challenges together. Because of NFHTA, fair housing professionals have the tools necessary to lead fair housing organizations, engage their communities around eliminating housing discrimination, and enforce fair housing law. NFHTA funding should be used to recruit and retain faculty, engage in enrollment planning, implement strategic planning, create curricula, develop and market adult education courses in a variety of modalities, coordinate training nationally (at accessible facilities), implement registration services, evaluate outcomes, offer courses through an online learning management system (LMS), and implement digital services that enhance the marketability of the following: (i) NFHTA course offerings; (ii) staff and faculty; (iii) HUD fair housing policies; (iv) enforcement efforts; (v) and education and outreach initiatives. For purposes of NFHTA only, HUD Customer means stakeholders that partner with FHIP recipients and FHAP agencies and prospective FHIP recipients and FHAP agencies.

National Homeless Data Analysis Project (NHDAP): Supports Customers to achieve the highest level of performance and results for understanding homelessness, system performance improvements, and optimizing resource allocation; provide HMIS Data and Technical Standards to facilitate the collection, processing, use and dissemination of homeless data; provide an

accurate, comprehensive, and timely national Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR); ensure software as a service for data integration and reporting; and support Federal government coordination to receive and use homeless data to make informed decisions in coordination with other data sets, across and within agencies. NHDAP eligible activities include HMIS TA; Administrative activities; Coordination activities; and four projects: (1) Sage HMIS Reporting Repository (Sage), (2) National HMIS Data Lab, (3) Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) and Homeless Data Exchange (HDX), and (4) HMIS Data Standards. For the purposes of NHDAP only, HUD customer means CoCs, HMIS Leads, and other entities that collect, analyze, and report HMIS and comparable databases data.

Native American Housing and Community Development TA: This TA is managed by the Office of Native American Programs in the Office of Public and Indian Housing. Beneficiaries of this TA include Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) recipients, specifically tribes and TDHEs; Tribal HUD-VASH recipients, potential or current Section 184 Loan Guarantee program borrowers or lenders; and Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) grantees.

Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant and Loan Guarantee TA: This TA is managed by the Office of Native American Programs in the Office of Public and Indian Housing. The beneficiaries of this TA include the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and lenders participating in the Native Hawaiian Housing Loan Guarantee Program (Section 184A). HUD estimates that FY 2023 Native Hawaiian TA funding already awarded under the previous Community Compass NOFO is sufficient to meet Native Hawaiian TA needs in FY24, and does not anticipate awarding FY 2024 amounts under this NOFO. Any amounts appropriated in FY 2025 will be awarded through this NOFO. Additionally, if HUD recaptures previously awarded Native Hawaiian TA funding, HUD reserves the right to award this funding through this NOFO.

Outcomes: Results achieved or benefits derived from TA or capacity building, such as changes in a customer's management or operation of HUD-funded programs and activities.

Outputs: Deliverables such as products and group learning opportunities that are usually quantified by number produced, number delivered, number of attendees, etc. Outputs do not measure a change in a customer's capacity or capabilities.

PHA Administrative Receivership and Recovery TA: These funds support the recovery of PHAs in administrative or judicial receivership or under HUD possession, and technical assistance focuses on increasing the capacity of a PHA to administer programs and serve program participants. These PHAs are in substantial default of statues, regulations, or the Annual Contributions Contract (ACC), and they have systemic, long-standing, and severe operational and management problems that require extraordinary levels of expertise and resources to recover performance in one or more areas that affect the entire PHA. This also includes PHAs that are transitioning from receivership or currently under HUD possession. This will help HUD ensure sustainability during the transition period. When a PHA is in receivership or HUD takes possession, the principal purpose of the relationship is to provide direct services to benefit the local PHA and governing entity and support recovery. Substantial involvement between the PHA, the local community and governing entity and HUD occurs while providing a public purpose of support, including technical assistance and capacity building. Allowable activities for this funding include assessments, direct technical assistance and capacity building, and training to improve a PHA's performance.

Place-Based Initiatives: In this model, the federal government responds directly to the needs and circumstances of localities, connecting communities (stakeholder organizations and residents) to resources, information, and technical expertise to customize solutions for local problems in those locally defined geographic areas. As neighborhoods, cities, counties, and regions tackle complex and interconnected challenges, HUD's place-based approach to TA maximizes the support and resources of the entire federal family to better respond to the reality of local challenges.

Program Experience: Program experience is defined as working directly with a major grant, assistance, or regulatory program or topic area. The applicant must have worked directly to develop, implement, train, advise, analyze, evaluate, or manage the program or issue area. Experience may include developing products, tools, curricula, websites, or other resources for a particular program or policy area.

Program Knowledge: Program knowledge is defined as substantive content knowledge of a program or policy area and an understanding of the program's rules and regulations. Program knowledge also includes knowledge of current challenges, best practices, and changes over time in the program or policy area.

Program Office Technical Assistance Coordinator (POTAC): The individual who coordinates TA activities for a program office. The POTAC provides technical monitoring, advice, and assistance to aid the GTR in the technical direction and evaluation of a successful applicant's performance. In some offices, a GTM fulfills this role rather than a POTAC.

Recovery Housing Program: The Recovery Housing Program (RHP) is a program that allows states and the District of Columbia to provide stable, transitional housing for eligible individuals in recovery from a substance-use disorder. RHP grants are subject to the requirements that apply to the grantee's annual CDBG funds, as may be modified by statutory and regulatory waivers designed to expedite or facilitate the use of the funds for transitional recovery housing. For more information about RHP, including the allocation formula, a list of recipients and allocations amounts, and the grants requirements notice (once it is published), please visit HUD's website at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/rhp.

Subject Matter Expert: An individual who is specially qualified by education and experience to perform difficult and challenging tasks in a particular field beyond the usual range of achievement of competent persons in that field. (See 5 CFR 304.102(d).)

Technical Assistance (**TA**): Guidance which enables HUD's customers to overcome a lack of specific skills or knowledge of HUD programs and, by doing so, results in the successful performance of and compliance with those programs. TA is the transfer of skills and knowledge to customers that need those skills and knowledge. TA includes all eligible activities listed in NOFO section I.A.1.c. "Community Compass Eligible Activities."

Thriving Communities Technical Assistance: HUD's Thriving Communities Technical Assistance (TCTA) program helps local governments ensure housing needs are considered as part of their larger infrastructure investment plans while also supporting equitable development in disadvantaged communities. For example, HUD's TCTA helps local governments identify land for housing development near transportation projects; develop preservation and anti-displacement strategies; identify and implement reforms to reduce barriers to location-efficient housing; and improve coordination and support a holistic approach to housing and transportation.

For the purposes of FY 2023 TCTA only, HUD Customer means units of general local government (UGLGs), as defined in this NOFO, that (a) will be receiving transportation funding, either directly or through a state pass-through, (b) address housing needs in Disadvantaged Communities, as defined in this NOFO, and (c) have a need for TA. The UGLG may work with regional organizations (such as a Metropolitan Planning Organization), non-profits, philanthropy, or other cross-sector partnerships, but the request for TCTA must be made by the UGLG.

Unit of General Local Government (UGLG): Any city, county, town, township, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State or territory. For the purposes of Thriving Communities, this includes tribal governments.

Utility Benchmarking: A fundamental asset management practice, consisting of tracking, analyzing, and reporting the utility consumption and costs associated with a property or portfolio of properties using, for example, the EPA Portfolio Manager Benchmarking tool.

Waste Diversion Programs: Programs that divert solid waste into recycling and compost collection programs and away from the solid waste stream.

B. Authority

This program is authorized under: The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328, approved December 29, 2023); the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42, approved March 9, 2024); Section 6(j)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(j)(3)) and Sections 17 and 18 of the Annual Contributions Contract (HUD 53012); the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11361b (section 405) and 42 USC 11408 (section 491); and Public Law 117-43 for CDBG-DR.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Available Funds

Funding of approximately **\$91,000,000** is available through this NOFO. Subject to appropriations, HUD reserves the right to award fiscal year 2025 funds based on this NOFO competition.

Additional funds may become available for award under this NOFO consistent with VI.A.2.e., Adjustments to Funding. Use of these funds is subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the funding restrictions contained in this NOFO.

Additional funds may also become available for award under this NOFO, such as funding appropriated for CDBG-DR technical assistance.

Further Detail on FY 2023/2024 Funding: Of the \$91,000,000, \$88,500,000 is FY 2024 funding for the Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program and up to \$2,500,000 is FY 2023 Departmental Technical Assistance funding for the Thriving Communities Technical Assistance program (TCTA). The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 provided the largest source share of the **\$91,000,000** for awards in support of technical assistance activities under this NOFO. The \$91,000,000 is divided amongst the following funding sources.

- 1. **FY 23 Departmental TA:** Up to \$2,500,000 for Thriving Communities Technical Assistance.
- 2. **FY 24 Departmental TA**: Approximately \$37,325,000, which covers the following:
- Offices of Community Planning and Development–\$6,555,500
- Office of Housing \$5,050,000
- Office Public and Indian Housing- \$7,200,000
- Manufactured Housing Communities-\$2,337,500
- Cross cutting programs and activities \$16,182,000
- **3. McKinney-Vento TA:** Up to \$20 million, including up to \$2,500,000 for Leveraging Healthcare and Services TA.
- 4. National Homeless Data Analysis Project (NHDAP): \$10 million
 - Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) TA: Approximately \$3.5 million for providing HMIS technical assistance.
 - NHDAP Four Projects: Approximately \$6.5 million for AHAR and HDX, HMIS Data Standards, National HMIS Data Lab, or Sage Reporting Repository activities.
- **5. Youth Homelessness TA**: \$10 million
- **6. Public Housing Administrative Receivership and Recovery (PHA Recovery) TA:** \$500,000
- **7. Native American Housing and Community Development TA**: \$7 million plus any additional funding recaptured from previous years.
 - National Organization: This amount includes \$2 million for a national organization as authorized under section 703 of NAHASDA.
- **8.** Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant and Loan Guarantee TA: HUD may also make awards for training and technical assistance for the Native Hawaiian programs from any amounts made available in FY 2025 plus any additional amounts recaptured from previous years (see also I.A.4.b., Program Definitions).
- **9. National Fair Housing Training Academy**: Approximately \$3 million

Further Detail on FY 2025 Funding and How to Apply: We reserve the right to award FY 2025 funds based on this single NOFO competition. We expect FY 2025 funding sources to be comparable to those listed above for FY 2023/2024.

Your application must identify the funding source(s) for which you are applying, specifically FY 2023 (TCTA) and/or FY 2024 and if you also want to be considered for FY 2025 Community Compass funding in FY2024, as well as the funding source(s) for which you are applying in FY 2025. You must include this information in your Application Summary to ensure we are able to align applications with the appropriate funding years and source areas. Funds requested in your application are detailed in two places: the SF-424 in box 18.a and in the Application Summary Form where applicants must detail the total amount requested, the total requested for FY 2023 (TCTA), FY 2024, and the total amount requested for FY 2025. If the total amount requested in

the SF-424 is different from the total requested in the Application Summary, the figure entered in the SF-424 takes precedence.

The total federal funding requested does not guarantee an award allocation equal to the requested amount. The total federal funding requested is an indication to HUD of your organization's capacity and we will not fund more than stated.

The total funding for any award made pursuant to this NOFO is contingent upon the availability of funds which may not have been appropriated at the time of this announcement.

B. Number of Awards

HUD expects to make approximately 47 awards from the funds available under this NOFO.

This figure may change based on the total funding available.

HUD anticipates issuing approximately 45 awards with FY 2024 funding.

HUD anticipates issuing approximately 2 awards with FY 2023 funding for TCTA.

HUD anticipates issuing approximately 45 additional awards with FY 2025 funding.

HUD reserves the right to reject all proposals, make no awards under this announcement, or make fewer or more awards than anticipated.

C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information

The maximum award amount per project period is an estimate based on the amount of FY 2023 (TCTA) and FY 2024 Community Compass funding available and the expected number of awards. You should determine your funding request based on the guidance provided in NOFO section IV.B.1.a.4. "The amount of funding you are requesting under this NOFO."

HUD will not provide more than \$42,500,000 to a single applicant for a single funding year. For example, an applicant who applies for both FY 2023 (TCTA) and FY 2024 Community Compass funds will not be awarded more than \$42,500,000 under this NOFO.

Estimated Total Funding:

\$91,000,000

Minimum Award Amount:

\$250,000

Per Project Period

Maximum Award Amount:

\$42,500,000

Per Project Period

D. Period of Performance

TA assignments may be delegated by HUD on a demand-response basis throughout the term of the cooperative agreement.

Estimated Project Start Date:

09/30/2024

Estimated Project End Date:

09/30/2027

Length of Project Periods:

36-month project period and budget period

Length of Periods Explanation of Other:

36-month project period

E. Type of Funding Instrument

Funding Instrument Type:

CA (Cooperative Agreement)

HUD will have significant involvement in the management of the cooperative agreement throughout the period of performance of the award. This means we will identify capacity building and TA needs; assign tasks and the method of providing TA; and review and approve proposed work plans, products, time frames, reports, vouchers, and other items related to administration of the cooperative agreement. HUD Field and Area Offices will play an integral role in this review and approval process. We will assign work to successful applicants on a demand-response basis. Successful applicants must share final deliverable(s) with us, in addition to the HUD customer.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Applicants

- 00 (State governments)
- 01 (County governments)
- 02 (City or township governments)
- 04 (Special district governments)
- 06 (Public and State controlled institutions of higher education)
- 08 (Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities)
- 12 (Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education)
- 13 (Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education)
- 20 (Private institutions of higher education)
- 22 (For profit organizations other than small businesses)
- 23 (Small businesses)
- 25 (Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification))

Hispanic-serving Institution (HSIs)

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)

Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions (ANNH)

U.S. territory or possession

Additional Information on Eligibility

In addition to the list above, eligible applicants include:

- NAHASDA-eligible Indian tribes as defined at Section 4(13) of NAHASDA
- TDHEs as defined at Section 4(22) of NAHASDA
- National or regional organizations representing Native American housing interests
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Councils of Government, or other regional planning entities
- Small and Disadvantaged Business (SDB) as defined at 13 CFR 124.1001

HUD will not evaluate applications from ineligible applicants.

Applicant Types

This NOFO defines **two** (2) applicant categories to delineate the depth and breadth assessment of demonstrated experience across organizations and reduce barriers for smaller organizations to apply and compete. While the intent of Community Compass is to provide cross-programmatic TA to HUD customers, there is a need to expand our applicant pool to include organizations with specialized experience serving and amplifying the voices of the most underserved communities. Each of these applicant categories is described below.

Category A requires four scored responses and Category B requires at least one, up to four, scored responses:

- 1. Category A Applicants have a breadth and depth of experience across multiple HUD programs and topics. The narrative response for Category A applicants must demonstrate knowledge and experience across **four** of the TA focus areas listed in Appendix I. For instance, a Category A applicant would choose four of the numbered programs/topics listed in Appendix I.
- 2. Category B Applicants have a depth of experience in the specialized programs and/or topics identified in Appendix II, including TCTA. The narrative response for Category B applicants must demonstrate knowledge and experience in **at least one**, but no more than four, of the TA focus areas listed in Appendix II. Breadth will not be assessed for Category B applicants, therefore only one scored program/topic-specific response to the rating factors is required.

Category B awardees will only be assigned work within the programs and topics identified in their application.

Carefully consider your organization's knowledge, experience, and capacity related to the programs and topics identified in Appendix I and II. Apply under the appropriate category and make certain to respond to the application review criteria and requirements that correspond to your category. You may apply as only one type of applicant (Category A or Category B).

NOTE: Category A, ONAP-only applicants may also apply to provide TA for a specialized program or topic identified in Appendix II (e.g., Gender-Based Violence and Homelessness, Tribal Homelessness, etc.) and still receive the breadth exception granted in prior Community Compass funding opportunities (see Rating Factor 1, Capacity of the Applicant for specifics).

When considering which category is most appropriate, applicants should recognize that due to the specialized nature of Category B applicant expertise, HUD expects that Category B applicants will be awarded funds only for the specialized programs/topics for which they apply. There are no formal award set asides for Category A or Category B. HUD reserves the right to award funds independent of the applicant category and according to the funds available as specified in Section II.A Funds Available of this NOFO.

Faith-based organizations

- (1) Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization, as set forth at 24 CFR part 5.109, and subject to the protections and requirements of 42 U.S.C. § 2000bb et seq., HUD will not, in the selection of recipients, discriminate against an organization based on the organization's religious character, affiliation, or exercise.
- (2) A faith-based organization that participates in this program will retain its independence and may continue to carry out its mission consistent with religious freedom and conscience protections in Federal law, including the Free Speech and Free Exercise Clauses of the Constitution, 42 U.S.C. § 2000bb et seq., 42 U.S.C. § 238n, 42 U.S.C. § 18113, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e-1(a) and 2000e-2€, 42 U.S.C. § 12113(d), and the Weldon Amendment, among others. Religious accommodations may also be sought under many of these religious freedom and conscience protection laws, particularly under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.
- (3) A faith-based organization may not use direct financial assistance from HUD to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities except where consistent with the Establishment Clause and any other applicable requirements. Such an organization also may not, in providing services funded by HUD, discriminate against a beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion, religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.

B. Ineligible Applicants

Individuals are not eligible for funding and only the organization types listed under Section III.A Eligible Applicants may apply.

C. Cost Sharing or Matching

This Program does not require cost sharing or matching.

D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements

Applicants who fail to meet any of the following threshold eligibility requirements are deemed ineligible. Applications from ineligible applicants are not rated or ranked and will not receive HUD funding.

1. Resolution of Civil Rights Matters

Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved before the application submission deadline. Applicants with unresolved civil rights matters at the application deadline are deemed ineligible. Applications from ineligible applicants are not rated or ranked and will not receive HUD funding.

- a. An applicant is ineligible for funding if the applicant has any of the charges, cause determinations, lawsuits, or letters of findings referenced in subparagraphs (1) (5) that are not resolved to HUD's satisfaction before or on the application deadline date for this NOFO.
 - (1) Charges from HUD concerning a systemic violation of the Fair Housing Act or receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing law proscribing discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), national origin, disability or familial status;
 - (2) Status as a defendant in a Fair Housing Act lawsuit filed by the United States alleging a pattern or practice of discrimination or denial of rights to a group of persons raising an issue of general public importance under 42 U.S.C. § 3614(a);
 - (3) Status as a defendant in any other lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice, or in which the Department of Justice has intervened, or filed an amicus brief or statement of interest, alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Violence Against Women Act, or a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair housing, non-discrimination, or civil rights generally including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing;
 - (4) Receipt of a letter of findings identifying systemic non-compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; Violence Against Women Act; or the Americans with Disabilities Act; or
 - (5) Receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of provisions of a state or local law prohibiting discrimination in housing based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or lawful source of income.
- b. HUD will determine if actions to resolve the charge, cause determination, lawsuit, or letter of findings taken before the application deadline date will resolve the matter. Examples of actions that may be sufficient to resolve the matter include, but are not limited to:
 - (1) Current compliance with a voluntary compliance agreement signed by all the parties;
 - (2) Current compliance with a HUD-approved conciliation agreement signed by all the parties;
 - (3) Current compliance with a conciliation agreement signed by all the parties and approved by the state governmental or local administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter;
 - (4) Current compliance with a consent order or consent decree;
 - (5) Current compliance with a final judicial ruling or administrative ruling or decision; or
 - (6) Dismissal of charges.

2. Timely Submission of Applications

Applications submitted after the deadline stated within this NOFO that do not meet the requirements of the grace period policy are marked late. Late applications are ineligible and are not considered for funding. See Section IV. D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

- **3. Applicant Eligibility -** Applications from applicants that do not meet the criteria described in NOFO section III.A. "Eligible Applicants" will not pass threshold review and will not be scored.
- **4.** Contractor/Consultant/Subrecipient Restriction Except for Category B applicants and/or new applicants, applying organizations are prohibited from being listed as a contractor, consultant, or subrecipient on any other application under this NOFO. Contractors, consultants, and subrecipients may be included in multiple applications only if they themselves do not apply. New applicants to the NOFO are defined as organizations that have not performed work as a direct awardee under the Community Compass program in the five years prior to the publication date of the NOFO.
- **5.** Narrative Responses You must submit a narrative response to each of the three Rating Factors. If you do not submit narrative responses to the three Rating Factors, your application will not pass threshold review and will not be scored.

E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility

Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Financial Assistance Programs

The following requirements affect applicant eligibility. Detailed information on each requirement is found in the "Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Competitive Programs" document on HUD's Funding Opportunities page. Applicants who fail to meet any of these eligibility requirements are deemed ineligible to receive HUD funding.

- 1. Universal Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Requirements
- 2. Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts
- 3. Debarments or Suspensions, or both
- 4. Mandatory Disclosure Requirement
- 5. Pre-selection Review of Performance
- 6. Sufficiency of Financial Management System
- 7. False Statements
- 8. Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities

In addition, each applicant under this NOFO must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the Award Term in Appendix A of <u>2 CFR part 170</u> if the applicant receives an award, unless an exception applies as provided in <u>2 CFR170.110</u>.

F. Program-Specific Requirements

• The maximum total points for an application is 104 points. The minimum total points for an application to be considered for funding is 75 excluding preference points. However, if no eligible applicants or an insufficient number of eligible applicants for a particular funding source or applicant category score at least 75 points, we may award funds from that funding source or applicant category to an organization scoring below 75 points. We will rank the applications by Category A and B and funding year requested.

- We will create a ranked fundable applicants list for each funding year requested for each applicant type (e.g., a Category A FY 2024 ranked list, and a Category A FY 2025 ranked list). We will use the standard referenced in NOFO section V.B.4 Review Types to determine fundable applicants for FY 2023 (TCTA), FY 2024, and FY 2025.
- You must have at least one staff member, contractor, or consultant who has a detailed
 working knowledge of HUD's online tools that support grantees and their partners in
 assessing current conditions, planning for the future, and designing programs using HUD
 funds and potentially other resources.
- While there is no penalty to applicants demonstrating experience within a specific region, successful applicants may be deployed across the United States and its insular areas as HUD deems necessary.
- We may task two or more successful applicants to collaborate as a team to provide TA or
 perform other eligible activities included in this NOFO. We may select an applicant to
 conduct overall coordination for the other TA providers.
- Successful applicants must comply with all applicable program statutes, regulations, policies, and award provisions.
- Successful applicants must provide information on outputs, outcomes, and impacts of their capacity building and TA activities.
- Availability of stated capacity throughout the duration of the period of performance:
 - You must actively maintain staff/consultants/contractors/subrecipients with the knowledge and experience described in your application.
 - o If you decline or delay assignments or fail to deliver acceptable TA or successfully complete activities in your stated areas of knowledge/experience, HUD reserves the right to terminate your cooperative agreement early and recapture funds awarded to you consistent with 2 CFR Part 200. We may consider declined or delayed assignments or unacceptable TA engagements and activities when making funding decisions and during future TA NOFO competitions.
- If you receive an award, you must operate within the structure of the "demand-response system" when applicable (see NOFO section I.A.4.b "Program Definitions" for a definition of "demand-response system"). Under the demand-response system, you must:
 - o Promptly respond to assignments or requests from the POTAC/GTM or GTR.
 - Coordinate TA plans and activities with other TA providers that have additional experience or skills or that have assisted or are providing assistance to HUD customers in the same jurisdiction or geographic area using TA funds.
 - Attend and/or conduct joint training sessions, workshops, or conferences with other TA providers, as may be requested by the POTAC/GTM or GTR.
 - Conduct work only when tasked or assigned by HUD (POTAC/GTM, GTR, or Cooperative Agreement Officer or designee).
 - o Provide TA plans, requests for reimbursement, performance reports, deliverables, and trainings in formats prescribed by HUD.
- Successful applicants must make a plan and adapt it as needed to changing circumstances, such as pivoting from in-person to virtual capacity building engagements.
- Successful applicants must be prepared to contribute to and participate in virtual hosting platforms. They must be ready to learn and master virtual modalities using various tools

- available centrally through TA funded resources and/or be prepared to purchase them in support of implementing specific TA work plan assignments.
- Successful applicants may be required to obtain the necessary accessible facilities to deliver TA to HUD customers under the TA award. For instance, you may be tasked to obtain hotel conference space to host a National Fair Housing Training Academy training.
- Successful applicants must obtain access to relevant HUD systems and other HUD tools to assist in the management of award requirements.
- This is a cost reimbursable program. Advance payments are not permitted.

In addition to the above listed program-specific requirements, the following programs have additional program-specific requirements:

National Fair Housing Training Academy:

• For the National Fair Housing Training Academy (NFHTA) funding, training sessions could take place in venues outside the Washington, D.C., area. You should consider this when determining the capacity to provide NFHTA training.

Homeless Data Analysis Project-four projects:

- If you are applying for National Homeless Data Analysis Project (NHDAP) funding, you must select NHDAP as one of your scored narrative responses.
- Recipients will be required to affirmatively further fair housing by providing systems and tools (i.e., Sage, HDX, HMIS Test Kits, AHAR Reports, Guidance, Manuals, etc.) that ensure Customers will have access to the demographic data and information they need to evaluate demographic trends.
- Recipients must be willing to work with HUD to address the risk management concerns, including the provisions of HUD's IT security and Privacy assurance, in alignment with Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) of 2014 and the HUD's IT Security Handbook 2400.25 Rev.4.2, as necessary.
- Successful applicants of HMIS Data Lab funds must:
 - 1. mitigate concerns regarding conflicts of interest. Awardee(s) assigned to operate the HMIS Data Lab, if they own or operate an HMIS or comparable software, must enter into an agreement with HUD stating they will not market or otherwise sell or license the HMIS or comparable software, data, or contact lists outside of the CoC or HMIS implementation area(s) in which they already operate their HMIS software. Marketing, selling, or licensing the HMIS or comparable software, data, or contact lists outside of the CoC(s) or HMIS implementation area(s) constitute a breach of contract with HUD.
 - 2. complete an MOU or other written agreement with CoC(s) that permit you to access and analyze data for purposes of operating the HMIS Data Lab. The MOU must contain a description of the CoC bed coverage rates, the number of years of historical data available, and historical bed coverage rates.
 - 3. complete, if the applicant does not own an HMIS, an MOU or other written agreement with one or more HMIS Vendors that permit you to access and use their HMIS for the purpose of testing data collection methods, reporting frameworks, database structures to inform HUD regulations and guidance.

Community Violence Interventions (CVI):

- Recipients must be willing to work with program offices (PD&R, PIH, CPD, Housing, and FPM) to integrate HUD's CVI priorities and ensure consistent delivery of technical assistance to HUD customers within the context of their local challenges addressing community violence.
- Recipients will be expected to work with HUD and its practice community established to
 provide peer-to-peer learning on CVI planning, development, and implementation.
 Particular attention will be given to establishing a network of credible practitioners and
 practice organizations for the community of practice.

Environmental Review Support

• The Office of Environment and Energy anticipates utilizing TA to build HUD Customers' knowledge and capacity of environmental reviews. Specialized experience may include - Secretary of Interior Qualified Professionals to assist in Section 106 Consultation, Hydrologists to determine unmapped floodplains, Environmental Engineers with experience in site remediation, Biologists with experience developing Biological Assessments for Endangered Species Act (ESA), and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Practitioners with experience drafting HUD Environmental Assessments and documented holistic environmental review documents within the HUD Environmental Review Online System (HEROS) or similar online environmental review system.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities – Center of Excellence (HBCU/COE):

- Recipients must be willing to work with PD&R's grant officers and subject matter
 experts to develop a COE technical assistance engagement strategy focusing on accessing
 housing and community data, implementing required data security plans, and connecting
 with leading academics and practitioners on research projects outlined in the grantee's
 HBCU/COE cooperative agreement.
- Recipients will be expected to support HBCU/COE in their implementation of community participatory and community-engaged research.

Hispanic Serving Institution – Center of Excellence (HSI/COE):

- Recipients must be willing to work with PD&R's grant officers and subject matter
 experts to develop a COE technical assistance engagement strategy focusing on accessing
 housing and community data, implementing required data security plans, and connecting
 with leading academics and practitioners on research projects outlined in the HSI/COE
 cooperative agreement.
- Recipients will be expected to support HSI/COE in their implementation of community participatory and community-engaged research.

Thriving Communities Technical Assistance:

- Recipients must have expertise in delivering technical assistance on topics at the intersection of housing and transportation.
- Recipients must have experience working with a broad range of UGLGs on issues involving disadvantaged communities, as defined in this NOFO.

Recipients must demonstrate familiarity with: strategies and opportunities to address
challenges local governments face in meeting local housing needs when designing and
deploying infrastructure investments; tools and funding sources to address housing
production and preservation and the avoidance of displacement; and creating equitable
community wealth-building opportunities as part of a holistic approach to infrastructure
planning in disadvantaged communities.

Advancing Racial Equity

In accordance with Executive Order <u>13985</u>, Executive Order 14091, *Executive Order on Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through The Federal Government*, and Federal fair housing and civil rights laws, your application must address the following:

- You analyzed the racial composition of the persons or households who are expected to benefit, directly or indirectly, from your proposed award activities;
- You identified any potential barriers to persons or communities of color equitably benefiting from your proposed award activities;
- You detailed the steps you will take to prevent, reduce, or eliminate these barriers; and
- You have measures in place to track your progress and evaluate the effectiveness of your efforts to advance racial equity in your award activities.

Note that any actions taken in furtherance of this section must be consistent with Federal nondiscrimination requirements.

This narrative is required and must address the four bullets outlined in the paragraph above. Applicants will submit this narrative according to the instructions in Section IV.B. This narrative will be evaluated for sufficiency and will not change the applicant's score or rank as compared to other applicants. If the narrative is deemed insufficient, it will be a "Curable Deficiency" that will be communicated to the applicant for correction with a notice of deficiency.

Given the nature of Community Compass, for this NOFO, your Advancing Racial Equity narrative is required to address only these requirements:

- You have general familiarity with the types of barriers to persons or communities of color equitably benefiting as related to programs and/or topics identified in your application,
- You have detailed the steps you could take to prevent, reduce, or eliminate these barriers in the first bullet,
- You have identified measures that you can use to track your progress and evaluate the effectiveness of your TA activities which advance racial equity and/or that supports HUD's customers efforts to advance racial equity.

We encourage applicants to consider the structure and flow of technical assistance under the CCTA program in preparing this narrative. Responses should be consistent with how technical assistance operates and consider the limitations of CCTA funding, e.g., TA funds cannot be used to carry out the activities of a HUD grant recipient.

Experience Promoting Racial Equity

In accordance with Executive Order 13985, Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, Executive Order 14091, Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the

Federal Government, and Federal fair housing and civil rights laws, your application must demonstrate that the applicant has the experience and/or the resources to effectively address the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities. This may include experience successfully working directly with such groups, experience designing or operating programs that equitably benefit such groups, or experience successfully advancing racial equity in other ways. This may also include experience soliciting, obtaining, and applying input from such groups when designing, planning, or implementing programs and activities.

Applicants will describe their past experience or resources to effectively meet the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities in response to Rating Factor 1D Experience Building Diverse Teams.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

With some exceptions for Federally recognized Indian tribes and their instrumentalities, the application must discuss how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations and how applicants will meet the requirements of the definition of affirmatively furthering fair housing at 24 CFR 5.151. If the applicant will carry out proposed activities with an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), the proposed activities should be consistent with the AFH's fair housing goals and with fair housing strategies specified in the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan or Public Housing Agency Plan.

Applicants must address this requirement by submitting a written narrative which describes how their proposed NOFO activities are aligned with the requirement to affirmatively further fair housing (AFFH). Specifically, applicants should describe how their proposed NOFO activities will meaningfully: (1) address significant disparities based on protected class in unmet housing needs (2) address disparities based on protected class in access to opportunity (3) address segregation and promoting integration (4) transform racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into well-resourced areas of opportunity without displacing existing residents, and/or (5) foster and maintain compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws]. If the narrative is deemed insufficient, it will be a "Curable Deficiency" that will be communicated to the applicant for correction with a notice of deficiency.

Given the nature of technical assistance (TA) awards, you may discuss your familiarity with issues related to AFFH that could arise while providing TA for HUD customers, for the programs and/or topics identified in your application. You may also discuss steps you would potentially take if tasked with providing technical assistance to support the efforts of HUD customers to AFFH. This may include a discussion of your existing expertise and resources to support HUD customers in affirmatively furthering fair housing or the steps you would take to build this capacity if required by the TA assignment. We encourage applicants to consider the structure and flow of technical assistance under the CCTA program in preparing this narrative.

G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.

This program has eligibility criteria for beneficiaries.

A selected applicant who provides TA cannot also be a beneficiary of that TA or of other activities carried out under the cooperative agreement. For Community Compass, direct beneficiaries of TA must be HUD customers. For Thriving Communities, direct beneficiaries

must meet the requirements detailed in the definition of Thriving Communities Technical Assistance in this NOFO.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Obtain an Application Package

Instructions for Applicants

All application materials, including the Application Instructions and Application Package, are available through Grants.gov. You must access and review all available application materials. You must submit your application electronically via Grants.gov under the Funding Opportunity Number cited within this NOFO. Your application must list the applicable Funding Opportunity Number.

You can request a waiver from the requirement for electronic submission, if you demonstrate good cause. An example of good cause may include: a lack of available Internet access in the geographic area in which your business offices are located. However, lack of SAM registration or valid UEI is not good cause. If you cannot submit your application electronically, you must ask in writing for a waiver of the electronic application submission requirements. HUD will not grant a waiver if you fail to submit to HUD by email or postmark by mail a request for a waiver at least 15 calendar days before the application deadline. If HUD grants a waiver, a paper application must be received before the deadline for this NOFO. To request a waiver, you must contact:

Name:

Technical Assistance

Email:

communitycompass@hud.gov

HUD Organization:

PD&R

Street:

451 7th Street SW

City:

Washington

State:

DC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Zip: 20410

B. Content and Form of Application Submission

You must verify that boxes 11, 12, and 13 on the SF-424 match the NOFO for which you are applying. If they do not match, you have downloaded the wrong Application Instruction and Application Package.

Submission of an application that is otherwise sufficient, but is under the wrong Assistance Listing and Funding Opportunity Number is a Non-Curable Deficiency, and will be rejected, unless otherwise stated under the Threshold requirements section. When applying with a UEI

that does not match the organization name as registered in sam.gov will result in an ineligible applications.

1. Content

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Applicant and Recipient Assurances and Certifications (HUD 424-B)	This form is required.	Review section IV.B.2.a. of this NOFO for detailed application requirements.
Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report (HUD 2880)	This form is required.	Review section IV.B.2.a. of this NOFO for detailed application requirements.
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	This form is conditionally required.	Review section IV.B.2.a. of this NOFO for detailed application requirements.
Federal Assistance Representations and Certifications	To assure compliance with a requirements for HUD programust complete the "Federal Representations and Certific section of your sam.gov regram.gov regram.gov for general within sam.gov for general soft Federal assistance awards for more information on how your sam.gov registration, where the sam.gov or the Federal Ser FSD.gov. You can search for FSD any time or request hele FSD agent Monday-Friday sp.m. ET.	
Application for Federal Assistance (SF424)	Review section IV.G. of this NOFO for detailed submission requirements. This form is required for all a Box 18.a. of the SF424 must your total combined FY 2025 and FY 2025 funding request must not exceed \$91,000,000 funding request amount must same as the total funding required for all a Box 18.a. of the SF424 must your total combined FY 2025 funding request included in your application. The funding request in box 1	

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
		serve as the maximum level of funding we may award to you.
Applicant Summary, Interest, Capacity & Experience Workbook	This form is required. Submit via Grants.gov as part of the application package.	This Excel workbook contains detailed instructions and three required forms that must be completed by the applicant: (1) Applicant Summary (2) Capacity and Interest, and (3) Experience of Staff, Contractors, Subrecipients, and Consultants (subfactor 1.C.). This workbook does not count towards the total 50-page limit for the narrative responses to the Rating Factors. Please see Sections IV.B.1.a, IV.B.1.b, and IV.B.1.c for more information on completing the three forms. The forms are PRA-approved; applicants must use only the HUD provided versions of the forms. All forms may be used to inform award decisions based on HUD's anticipated TA needs, but only Experience of Staff, Contractors, and Consultants is scored.
Grants.gov Lobbying Form certification	Submit via Grants.gov as part of the application package.	The Lobbying Form certification must be submitted by applicants who are requesting more than \$100,000 in this NOFO; as the minimum award for this NOFO is \$250,000, all applicants to this NOFO must submit the Lobbying Form. The Lobbying Form certification can be found in the NOFO application kit on Grants.gov. Even if you are not required by 24 CFR Part 87 to submit an SF-LLL, you must still submit a Lobbying Form certification.
2024-2025 Community Compass Application Organization Template	Submit via Grants.gov as part of the	Applicants must use this template to organize its funding application based on the instructions in the 2024/2025 Notice

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
	application package.	of Funding Availability (FR-6800-N-06). Use of this template is required.
Grant Application Detailed Budget (HUD-424-CB)	This form is required.	This form is contained within the Instruction Package. Applicants are required to submit estimated direct and indirect costs based on the total amount requested on the SF-424. For instance, if an applicant requests \$2 million on the SF-424 and has a NICRA of 25%, the total direct costs would be \$1,500,000 and the total indirect costs would be \$500,000. If an applicant does not have an approved NICRA, the 10% de minimis rate should be used or you can enter 0% for indirect costs. Applicants are expected to enter data in only the following cells: rows a, b, j in columns 1 and 9. The values in each column should be the same by row.

a. Applicant Summary Form, submitted as .xls or .xlsx format

This Excel form is contained within the *Applicant Summary, Interest, Capacity & Experience Workbook* available on Grants.gov as part of the application package. The application summary will not be scored but must be submitted as part of your application package and is considered a curable deficiency. There is no page limit for the form. You must include the following information in your application summary:

- 1. **Applicant Organization Legal Name.** This should match the name provided on your SF-424.
- 2. **Description of applicant organization.** You must provide a brief description of your organization in no more than 350 words. This description may appear in the announcement of the awards if you are funded through this NOFO. Each description must contain: Organizational history; purpose and mission; years of service; housing, health, education, economic development, workforce development, and related supportive services provided; and agency web address for additional information.
- 3. **Applicant Status (eligible applicant type).** Select the type of applicant from the list. The list is populated by types of eligible applicant from Section III.A of the NOFO.
- 4. **Applicant Type.** Category A or Category B as described in Section III.A.
- 5. The amount of funding you are requesting under this NOFO. You must identify four amounts, each rounded to a whole dollar: (1) Total funding requested (FY 2023 TCTA,

FY 2024 Community Compass and FY 2025 Community Compass combined), (2) FY 2023 funding requested for TCTA, (3), FY 2024 Community Compass funding requested, and (4) FY 2025 Community Compass funding requested. Even if you are seeking funding from multiple funding sources, the amounts above should reflect the total FY 2024, FY 2025, and combined requests, not separate amounts for each funding source. Your FY 2023 TCTA, FY 2024 Community Compass, and FY 2025 Community Compass funding requests must not exceed \$40,000,000 each, and your total funding request must not exceed \$91,000,000.

Example:

Total Funding Request Amount (\$) (match to SF 424)	\$45,000,000
FY 2023 Thriving Communities TA Funding Request	\$0
FY 2024 Community Compass Funding Request	\$25,000,000
FY 2025 Community Compass Funding Request	\$20,000,000

Since FY 2025 funding is contingent upon the availability of FY 2025 federal appropriations, you should assume for the purposes of your application summary that FY 2025 funding levels and funding sources will be similar to the FY 2024 funding listed in NOFO section II.A. "Available Funds."

The total funding requested must be the same as the amount included on your SF424; when the amounts do not match, the amount listed on the SF424 will be used as the requested amount. You should determine your funding requests based on your organization's capacity, including the number of available personnel, the range and quality of their skills and knowledge, and your ability to successfully execute multiple assignments from HUD simultaneously over a three-year period. The total federal funding requested in box 18.a. of your SF424 will serve as the maximum level of funding we may award to you. The total federal funding requested does not guarantee an award allocation equal to the requested amount. The total federal funding requested is an indication to HUD of your organization's capacity and we will not fund more than stated.

6. The funding source(s) for which you wish to be considered in FY 2023 (TCTA), FY 2024 Community Compass and FY 2025 Community Compass. Community Compass funding sources include: Thriving Communities, Departmental TA, McKinney-Vento, National Homeless Data Analysis Project, Youth Homelessness, Public Housing Administrative Receivership and Recovery, Native American Housing and Community Development, Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant and Loan Guarantee (NHHBG/184A), and National Fair Housing Training Academy.

The funding source(s) requested communicates your interest in delivering technical assistance for programs/topics supported by the fund source (as detailed in Appendix I). For instance, if an applicant wishes to deliver technical assistance for CDBG and Multifamily housing preservation, the applicant will request funding for Departmental. This information will not be used for scoring, but it will help us to determine your preferences and may inform award decisions. You are not guaranteed to receive funds under the funding source(s) for which you indicate a preference, and you must submit only one application, regardless of the number of funding sources identified in your Application Summary Form.

Example:

Funding Source Requested by Fiscal Year	FY 2023 (TCTA), FY2024, FY2025, or N/A?
Departmental	FY2024 and FY2025
McKinney-Vento	N/A
National Homeless Data Analysis Project	FY2024 and FY2025
Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) TA	N/A
NHDAP – Four Projects:(1) AHAR and HDX, (2) HMIS Data Standards, (3) National HMIS Data Lab, (4) Sage Reporting Repository	FY2024 and FY2025
Youth Homelessness	N/A
HOME Legacy TA	N/A
Public Housing Administrative Receivership and Recovery	N/A
Native American Housing and Community Development	FY2024
Native Hawaiian TA	FY2025
National Fair Housing Training Academy	N/A
Thriving Communities Technical Assistance	FY2023

Note: If we determine that you will receive funding from multiple funding sources under this NOFO, we may replicate your SF424 submission in our application review system to allow the system to issue you multiple awards, if necessary. Replicating or copying your SF424 will not impact the scoring or review process and will facilitate processing awards from multiple funding sources for a single applicant.

7. Whether your organization is designated as any of the following:

- A small, disadvantaged business (e.g. 8(a) business)
- A small business as defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration
- A faith-based organization
- Women-owned business
- Minority-Serving Institution
- National organization as authorized under section 703 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4212)
- 8. **Whether you are a new applicant**. A "new applicant" is defined as an applicant that has not performed work as a direct awardee under the Community Compass program in the five years prior to the publication date of the NOFO.
- 9. Whether you are a current Community Compass recipient interested in joining the TA Provider Advisory Council (TPAC), see Section I.A.c.9. Coordination for more details.

- 10. The scored programs or cross-cutting topics addressed in your subfactors 1.A., 1.B., and Rating Factors 2 and 3 responses. Select the HUD Office first, and then select the program or cross-cutting topic in the adjacent field. Category A applicants must identify four programs or cross-cutting topics, Category B applicants must identify at least one, but no more than four, programs or cross-cutting topics.
- 11. **Indirect Cost Rate**. You must indicate your indirect cost rate as described in section IV.F. of this NOFO.
- 12. **Eligible activities**. You must indicate the number of eligible activities you have completed in the five years prior to the publication date of the NOFO. Should you receive funding under this NOFO, we may use this information to direct engagements. The eligible activity categories are described in NOFO section I.A.1.c. "Community Compass Eligible Activities," and your application summary should address all eligible activities except for Administrative and Coordination.

b. Capacity and interest form submitted as .xls or .xlsx.

You must submit this Excel form, which is contained within the *Applicant Summary, Interest, Capacity & Experience Workbook* on Grants.gov as part of the application package. This chart indicates capacity and interest in each program or cross-cutting topic in the "Technical Assistance Focus Areas" table in Appendix I and II. The capacity and interest chart will not be scored but may inform award decisions based on HUD's anticipated TA needs. Please note that, if you receive an award, you are not guaranteed to receive assignments related to each of the programs in which you expressed capacity or interest. Assignments to successful applicants will be determined by HUD based on need, applicant experience, and availability. You should indicate capacity and interest in all topics listed in the form, but you must ensure that the programs/topics for which you are requesting funding are scored high for capacity and interest.

See form for instructions on completing the capacity and interest chart.

c. Experience of staff, subrecipients, contractors, consultants and their qualifications within each program or cross-cutting topic listed on the form, including any applicable certifications, submitted as .xls or .xlsx. You must submit this Excel form, which is contained within the *Applicant Summary, Interest, Capacity & Experience Workbook* on Grants.gov, as part of the application package. See subfactor 1.C. for detailed instructions on completing this form. This information will be scored as part of your Rating Factor 1 response. This information will also be used to inform award decisions based on HUD's anticipated TA needs. Complete the form according to instructions and do not truncate, remove, or alter field restrictions in any way. The applicant will receive a subfactor 1.C. score of "0" for improper completion and/or manipulation of the PRA-approved form.

d. Equity Narratives Submission Requirements

- The application must include a written narrative on how the applicant has carried out the activities advancing racial equity in a manner consistent with federal nondiscrimination requirements. The applicant must include the discussion required by Section III.F. of this NOFO. There is a 2-page limit for this narrative.
- The application must include a written narrative describing how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing (AFFH) in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations. The applicant

- must include the AFFH discussion required by Section III.F. of this NOFO. There is a 2-page limit for this narrative.
- The Advancing Racial Equity narrative and the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing narrative should be included in File 7 according to the Application Organization Template. For Category B applicants, this should be included in File 4 according to the Application Organization Template.

e. Instructions for packaging applications.

Category A Applicants.

• In this NOFO, each scored program/topic narrative should be submitted as a separate file. See the table below for instructions on organizing file submission for program-specific narratives.

	Subfactor 1A-max 8 pts	Subfactor 1B-max 10 pts.	Rating Factor 2- max 29 pts.	Subfactor 3A-max 12 pts.	Subfactor 3B-max 8 pts.
File 1-Scored Response 1	HOME	HOME	HOME	HOME	HOME
File 2-Scored Response 2	ESG	ESG	ESG	ESG	ESG
File 3-Scored Response 3	PH Capital Fund	PH Capital Fund	PH Capital Fund	PH Capital Fund	PH Capital Fund
File 4-Scored Response 4	NFHTA	NFHTA	NFHTA	NFHTA	NFHTA

- Applicants should assume that a different review panel will review and score each program/topic file.
- If you are applying for National Homeless Data Analysis Project (NHDAP) funding, you must select NHDAP as one of your scored narrative responses. NHDAP consists of four projects (see Appendix I). You may address multiple NHDAP projects in **one** programspecific, scored response. You must clearly identify which of the four NHDAP projects you are addressing in your response.
- See the table below for instructions on organizing file submission for general narratives.

File 5-Excel Form	Subfactor 1C-max 8 pts.
File 6	Subfactor 1D – max 10 pts.
	Subfactor 1E – max 10 pts.
File 7	Required Supporting Documents (e.g., Resumes, biographies, letters of commitment, unscored narratives on advancing racial equity and affirmatively furthering fair housing)
File 8	Additional unscored responses

• The 2024-2025 Community Compass Application Organization Template has been updated and provided as an attachment to this NOFO. You must use this template to help

organize your funding application based on the instructions above and throughout this NOFO.

Category B Applicants

- Applicants applying to deliver TA for a specialized program or topic are only required to submit one, but no more than 4, scored responses.
- If you are addressing more than one of the specialized programs and topics, you must follow the submission requirements above for Category A applicants.
- If you are only addressing one of the specialized programs or topics, you must submit your narrative response to all rating factors as one file, except subfactors 1.C., 1.D., and 1.E.
 - o 1.C. Experience Form must be submitted separately as an Excel file
 - 1.D. Experience Building Diverse Teams and 1.E. Administrative and Award Management must be submitted in one separate file
- Resumes, biographies, letters of commitment, etc. and unscored narratives on advancing racial equity and affirmatively furthering fair housing should be clearly labeled as "Required Supporting Documents" and submitted as one file.
- The 2024-2025 Community Compass Application Organization Template has been updated and provided as an attachment to this NOFO. You must use this template to help organize your funding application based on the instructions above and throughout this NOFO.
- **e. Indirect Cost Rate attachment**. Applicants selected for funding pursuant to this NOFO may charge indirect costs to the award. As explained in section IV.F of this NOFO, if you want to charge indirect costs against the award, your application must include an attachment labeled "Indirect Costs" that clearly states the rate, the applicable distribution base, and, if applicable, a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate. The indirect cost rate attachment does not count toward the 50-page limit for the narrative responses to the Rating Factors.
- **f. Code of Conduct attachment**. You must develop and maintain a written code of conduct in accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.318</u>, unless you are a state. If you already have a code of conduct on file with HUD, you do not need to resubmit a new code unless the information on file has changed. To determine whether HUD has your code of conduct on file, you must visit the following website:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/conductgrants. If you are not listed on that website, you must include your code of conduct with your NOFO application as an attachment labeled "Code of Conduct." If you are listed on that website but your code of conduct has changed since you last submitted it to HUD, you must include your most up-to-date code of conduct as an attachment. If you are listed on that website and your code of conduct has not changed since you last submitted it to HUD, you do not need to include your code of conduct with your NOFO application. The code of conduct does not count toward the 50-page limit for the narrative responses to the Rating Factors.

g. Organizational chart. You should submit an organizational chart representing key individuals responsible for managing and executing a TA cooperative agreement. The

organizational chart does not count toward the 50-page limit for the narrative responses to the Rating Factors. The organizational chart may include pictures, graphics, and/or text boxes.

A complete submission will consist of the application signed by an authorized official of your organization and contain all relevant sections of the application as described in this NOFO.

2. Other Submission Requirements

a. Standard Application, Assurances, Certifications and Disclosures

(1) Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Application for Federal Assistance

The SF-424 is the government-wide form required to apply for Federal assistance programs, discretionary awards, and other forms of financial assistance programs. You must complete and submit the form with the other required forms and information as directed in this NOFO.

By signing the forms in the SF-424 either through electronic submission or in paper copy submission (for those granted a waiver), you and the signing authorized organization representative affirm that you both have reviewed the certifications and assurances associated with the application for Federal assistance and (1) are aware the submission of the SF-424 is an assertion that the relevant certifications and assurances are established and (2) acknowledge that the truthfulness of the certifications and assurances are material representations upon which HUD will rely when making an award to the applicant. If it is later determined the signing authorized organization representative to the application made a false certification or assurance, caused the submission of a false certification or assurance, or did not have the authority to make a legally binding commitment for the applicant, the applicant and the individual who signed the application may be subject to administrative, civil, or criminal action. Additionally, HUD may terminate the award to the applicant organization or pursue other available remedies. Each applicant is responsible for including the correct certifications and assurances with its application submission, including those applicable to all applicants, those applicable only to Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaskan native villages and those applicable to applicants other than Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaskan native villages.

(2) Assurances (HUD 424-B)

By submitting your application, you provide assurances that, if selected to receive an award, you will comply with U.S. statutory and other requirements, including, but not limited to civil rights requirements. All recipients and subrecipients of the award are required to submit assurances of compliance with Federal civil rights requirements. *See, e.g.*, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Violence Against Women Act, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; *see also* 24 CFR §§ 1.5; 3.115; 8.50; and 146.25. HUD accepts these assurances in the form of the HUD 424-B, which also require compliance with HUD Reform Act requirements and all general Federal nondiscrimination requirements in the administration of the Federal assistance award.

(3) Applicant Disclosure Report Form 2880 (HUD 2880)

The form HUD 2880 is required if you are applying for assistance within the jurisdiction of HUD to any project subject to Section 102(d) of the HUD Reform Act . Assistance is provided directly by HUD to any person or entity, but not to subrecipients. It includes assistance for the acquisition, rehabilitation, operation, conversion, modernization, renovation, or demolition of

any property containing five or more dwelling units that is to be used primarily for residential purposes. It includes assistance to independent group residences, board and care facilities, group homes and transitional housing but does not include primarily nonresidential facilities such as intermediate care facilities, nursing homes and hospitals. It also includes any change requested by a recipient in the amount of assistance previously provided, except changes resulting from annual adjustments in Section 8 rents under Section 8(c)(2)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. § 1437f). See 24 CFR part 4 for additional information.

(4) Code of Conduct

Both you, as the award recipient, and all subrecipients must have a code of conduct (or written standards of conduct). The code of conduct must comply with the requirements included in the "Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards" section of the Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards-- 2024, as well as any program-specific requirements. These requirements include ethical standards related to conflicts of interest for procurements in 2 CFR 200.318(c) and 2 CFR 200.317, as well as HUD-specific conflict of interest standards. HUD maintains a list of organizations that have previously submitted written standards of conduct on its Code of Conduct for HUD Grant Programs webpage. But it is your responsibility to ensure that the standards are compliant with the noted requirements and that HUD has the latest version of the written standards. Updated written standards should be submitted with the application. Any updates to your written standards, after the application period, should be submitted as directed by the HUD program contact for this NOFO.

(5) False Statements

Applicant understands that providing false or misleading information during any part of the application, award, or performance phase of an award may result in criminal, civil or administrative sanctions, including but not limited to: fines, restitution, and/or imprisonment under 18 USC 1001, 18 USC 1012, or 18 USC 287; treble damages and civil penalties under the False Claims Act, 31 USC 3729 et seq.; double damages and civil penalties under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act, 31 USC 3801 et seq.; civil recovery of award funds; suspension and/or debarment from all federal procurement and non-procurement transactions, FAR Part 9.4 or 2 CFR Part 180; and other remedies including termination of active HUD award.

(6) Lobbying Activities

Applicants are subject to the provisions of Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, 31 U.S.C. 1352, (the Byrd Amendment), and 24 CFR part 87, which prohibit recipients of federal awards from using appropriated funds for lobbying the executive or legislative branches of the Federal government in connection with a Federal award. All applicants must submit with their application the signed "Certification Regarding Lobbying" form. In addition, applicants must disclose, using Standard Form LLL (SF-LLL), "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," any funds, other than federally appropriated funds, that will be or have been used to influence federal employees, members of Congress, or congressional staff regarding specific awards. Federally recognized Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage of the Byrd Amendment, but state-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established only under state law shall comply with this requirement.

3. Format and Form

Narratives and other attachments to your application must follow the following format guidelines. Do not submit password protected or encrypted files.

50 Pages maximum length of narratives

Page Limit for the 3 Rating Factor Narrative Responses. The files that you submit as a narrative response to Rating Factors 1-3 (excluding 1.C. and required supporting documentation) must total no more than 50 pages in length. We will number the pages, any pages beyond 50 will be removed from the end and not reviewed.

Margins, Font Size, Text Color. Your narrative responses to the Rating Factors must adhere to the following requirements:

- a. 8.5 by 11-inch paper size
- b. 12-point font
- c. An easily readable font such as Times New Roman, Courier New, or Arial
- d. Black text
- e. At least 0.5-inch margins
- f. Single-spaced

Clarity, Organization. Your narrative responses to the Rating Factors must be clear, concise, well organized, and free of grammatical errors. One Rating Factor should not include information that belongs in another Rating Factor; criteria addressed in the incorrect Rating Factor may not be scored.

Prohibition on Materials Not Specifically Requested. You may not submit documents other than what is specifically requested by HUD in this NOFO. We will not consider résumés, photos, or any other documents that were not specifically requested.

Restrictions on Information Added to Narrative Responses. You may not include any pictures, graphics, or text boxes in your narrative responses to Rating Factors 1-3. We will not score information provided in those formats. You may use tables and graphs in your narrative responses if they help to organize information.

Treatment of Tables of Contents. If you include a Table of Contents or other reference section in any of your three Rating Factor narrative response files, that text will count towards your 50-page limit for the narrative responses to Rating Factors 1-3.

You must submit only one application in response to this NOFO. If you submit multiple applications, we will only review the last timely application received.

C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

1. SAM Registration Requirement

You must register at www.sam.gov before submitting an application. You must maintain current information in SAM on immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as

on all predecessors that a Federal award within the last three years, if applicable. Information in SAM must be current for all times during which you have an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by HUD.

2. UEI Requirement

All entities doing business with the Federal government must use the UEI created in SAM.gov. Your application must include a valid UEI that is registered and active at www.sam.gov. For more information, see: <a href="https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/Federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-systems-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update. When submitting an application with a UEI that does not match the organization name as registered in sam.gov will result in an ineligible application.

3. Requirement to Register with Grants.gov

Anyone planning to submit applications on behalf of an organization must register at Grants.gov and be approved by the E-Biz POC in SAM to submit applications for the organization. Registration for SAM and Grants.gov is a multi-step process and can take four (4) weeks or longer to complete if data issues arise. Applicants without a valid registration cannot apply through Grants.gov. Complete registration instructions and guidance are provided on Grants.gov.

D. Application Submission Dates and Times

1. Application Due Date Explanation

The application deadline is 11:59:59 PM Eastern time on

06/20/2024

Submit your application to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit a paper application. Instructions for submitting your paper application will be contained in the waiver of electronic submission.

"Received by Grants.gov" means the applicant received a confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number from Grants.gov. Grants.gov then assigns an application tracking number and date-and timestamp each application upon successful receipt by the Grants.gov system. A submission attempt not resulting in confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number is not considered received by Grants.gov.

Applications received by Grants.gov must be validated by Grants.gov to be received by HUD.

"Validated by Grants.gov" means the application has been accepted and was not rejected with errors. You can track the status of your application by logging into Grants.gov, selecting "Applicants" from the top navigation, and selecting "Track my application" from the dropdown list. If the application status is "rejected with errors," you must correct the error(s) and resubmit the application before the 24-hour grace period ends. Applications in "rejected with errors" status after the 24-hour grace period expires will not be received by HUD. Visit Grants.gov for a complete description of processing steps after applying.

HUD strongly recommends you review your application before you submit it at Grants.gov. Also, HUD recommends you submit your application at least **48 hours before the deadline** and during regular business hours to allow enough time to correct errors or overcome other problems.

2. Grants.gov Customer Support

Grants.gov provides customer support information on its website at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html. If you have difficulty accessing the application and instructions or have technical problems, contact Grants.gov customer support center by calling (800) 518-GRANTS (this is a toll-free number) or by sending an email to support@grants.gov. The customer support center is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, except Federal holidays. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals who have speech or other communication disabilities may use a relay service to reach Grants.gov Customer Support. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, visit the webpage for Federal Communications Commission.

3. Grants.gov Application Submission

You can verify the contents of your submitted application to confirm Grants.gov received everything you intended to submit. To verify the contents of your submitted application:

- Log in to Grants.gov.
- Click the Check Application Status link, which appears under the Grant Applications heading in the Applicant Center page. This will take you to the Check Application Status page.
- Enter search criteria and a date range to narrow your search results.
- Click the Search button. To review your search results in Microsoft Excel, click the Export Data button.
- Review the Status column. To view more detailed submission information, click the Details link in the Actions column.
- To download the submitted application, click the Download link in the Actions column.

Take note of the Grants.gov tracking number, as it is needed by the Grants.gov customer support center should you seek their assistance.

HUD may extend the application deadline for any program if Grants.gov is offline or not available to applicants for at least 24 hours immediately prior to the deadline date, or the system is down for 24 hours or longer and impacts the ability of applicants to cure a submission deficiency within the grace period.

HUD may also extend the application deadline upon request if there is a presidentially declared disaster in the applicant's area.

If these events occur, HUD will post a notice on its website establishing the new, extended deadline for the affected applicants. HUD will also publish the extension on Grants.gov.

In determining whether to grant a request for an extension based on a presidentially declared disaster, HUD will consider the totality of the circumstances including the date of an applicant's extension request (how closely it followed the basis for the extension), whether other applicants in the geographic area are similarly affected by the disaster, and how quickly power or services are restored to enable the applicant to submit its application.

NOTE: Busy servers, slow processing, large file sizes, improper registration or password issues are not valid circumstances to extend the deadline dates or the grace period.

4. Amend or Revise an Application

Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by submitting a revised and complete application including the new or changed material. The revised application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline.

If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline.

5. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions

If your application is received by Grants.gov before the deadline, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of 24 hours after the application deadline to submit a corrected, received, and validated application through Grants.gov. The date and time stamp on the Grants.gov system determines the application receipt time. Any application submitted during the grace period but not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications.

6. Late Applications

An application received after the NOFO deadline date that does not meet the Grace Period requirements will be marked late and will not be reviewed by HUD for funding

consideration. Improper or expired registration and password issues are not sufficient causes to allow HUD to accept applications after the deadline date.

7. Corrections to Deficient Applications

HUD will not consider information from applicants after the application deadline except for curable deficiencies.

HUD will uniformly notify applicants of each curable deficiency. See curable deficiency definition in section I.A of this NOFO. Examples of curable (correctable) deficiencies include inconsistencies in the funding request and failure to submit required certifications. These examples are non-exhaustive.

When HUD identifies a curable deficiency, HUD will notify the authorized organization representative identified on the SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance via email. This email is the official notification of a curable deficiency.

You must email corrections of Curable Deficiencies to applicationsupport@hud.gov within the time limits specified in the notification. The time allowed to correct deficiencies will be no less than 48 hours and no more than 14 calendar days from the date of the email notification. The start of the cure period will be the date stamp on the email sent from HUD. If the deficiency cure deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Federal holiday, or on a day when HUD's Headquarters are closed, then the applicant's correction must be received on the next business day HUD Headquarters offices in Washington, DC are open.

Corrections to a paper application must be sent in accordance with and to the address indicated in the notification of deficiency. HUD will treat a paper application submitted in accordance with a waiver of electronic application containing the wrong UEI as having a curable deficiency. Failure to correct the deficiency and meet the requirement to have a UEI and active registration in SAM will render the application ineligible for funding.

8. Authoritative Versions of HUD NOFOs

The version of this NOFO posted on Grants.gov includes the official documents HUD uses to solicit applications.

9. Exemptions

Parties that believe the requirements of the NOFO would impose a substantial burden on the exercise of their religion should seek an exemption under the <u>Religious Freedom Restoration Act</u> (RFRA).

E. Intergovernmental Review

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

F. Funding Restrictions

- 1. An organization may not provide TA or capacity building to itself, and it may not provide TA to another organization with which it contracts or sub-awards funds to carry out activities under the TA award.
- 2. No fee or profit may be paid to any recipient, contractor, or consultant of an award under the TA program. This includes but is not limited to any interest paid on accounts used to manage program funds.

3. Compensation Restrictions:

- O TA award recipients cannot charge more than Level IV of the Federal Executive Schedule annually for an individual's compensation even if the individual earns more than the capped amount. Effective January 2024, the salary limitation for Executive Level IV is \$191,000. The compensation cap does not require TA award recipients to limit the amount paid to individuals funded on TA grants; an individual's remaining compensation over the cap must be paid from an alternate source of organizational funds. The requirement applies to all TA award recipients' staff, consultants, and contractors. If the salary cap amount for Level IV of the Federal Executive Schedule, authorized by law, increases, if adequate funds are available in active awards, and if the salary cap increase is consistent with the TA award recipient's compensation policy, TA award recipients are permitted to use TA funds to cover the increased salary amount. However, additional funds will not be provided to cover these costs.
- o HUD will determine whether compensation is reasonable and customary for the skill set provided and the area(s) being served.

4. For FY2023 funding (TCTA), an award recipient under this NOFO may also be working with TA recipients under DOT's Thriving Communities TA program either as a TA provider for both programs or in coordination with a TA provider under DOT's Thriving Communities NOFO. In either situation, the award recipient must institute appropriate fiscal controls to ensure that TA assistance provided as part of this award is directly attributable to the award and specifically identified for reimbursement. The award recipient must avoid the commingling of funds, avoid duplication of assistance provided to beneficiaries, and ensure that invoices billed to this award are for work performed under this award.

Additional restrictions are described at 2 CFR Part 200. Other restrictions may apply to the use of funds under a specific funding source.

Indirect Cost Rate

Normal indirect cost rules under 2 CFR part 200, subpart E apply. If you intend to charge your indirect costs to the award, your application must clearly state the rate and distribution base you intend to use. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must also include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. Successful applicants whose rate changes after the application deadline must submit the new rate and documentation to assure the award agreement incorporates the applicable rate.

Applicants other than state and local governments. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must clearly state the approved rate and distribution base and must include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. If your organization does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional rate) and elects to use the de minimis rate, your application must clearly state you intend to use the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC), as defined at 2 CFR 200.1. Costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both, as described in 2 CFR 200.403. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until the organization chooses to negotiate a rate, which the organization may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

<u>State and local governments.</u> If your department or agency unit has a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must include that rate, the applicable distribution base, and a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate. If your department or agency unit receives more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year, you may not claim indirect costs until you receive a negotiated rate from your cognizant agency for indirect costs as provided in Appendix VII to 2 CFR part 200.

If your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and your department or agency unit has developed and maintains an indirect cost rate proposal and supporting documentation for audit in accordance with 2 CFR part 200, Appendix VII, you may use the rate and distribution base specified in that indirect cost rate proposal.

Alternatively, if your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate, you may elect to use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC. As described in 2 CFR 200.403(d), costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied

consistently for all Federal awards until your department or agency chooses to negotiate for a rate, which you may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

G. Other Program-specific Requirements

There are no other program-specific requirements.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Review Criteria

1. Rating Factors

Organization: To aid in the review of your application, you must follow the instructions provided in Section VI.B.1.d. Instructions for Packaging Applications.

Overview for Subfactors 1.A. and 1.B. and Rating Factors 2 and 3: Category A requires four scored responses, while Category B requires at least one and no more than four scored responses. The topics you select to be scored in subfactor 1.A. must align with your responses in Rating Factors 1.B., 2 and 3. The topics you select should reflect the programs/cross-cutting topics in which you have the most knowledge and experience and are most interested in providing TA or carrying out other activities under Community Compass. Failure to properly align scored, program-specific, narrative responses across Rating Factors 1.A., 1.B., 2, and 3, will result in the misaligned response(s) being assessed a score of zero (0).

If you do not have knowledge of and/or experience in the programs or cross-cutting topics in the table, you must describe knowledge and/or experience in similar programs or cross-cutting topics including but not limited to housing, health, education, economic development, or workforce development. You must describe how this knowledge and/or experience qualifies you to provide TA under the Community Compass program. To aid in the review of your application, each response must clearly identify the similar HUD Office and program or cross-cutting topic to which it aligns in the "Technical Assistance Focus Areas" tables in Appendix I (Category A) or II (Category B).

Category A Technical Assistance Focus Areas table (Appendix I) is organized by HUD Office, you must provide four scored responses. Your scored responses may be for multiple programs or cross-cutting topics within one HUD Office (e.g., descriptions of your knowledge of Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency, Moving to Work, Rental Assistance Demonstration, and Choice Neighborhoods in Public and Indian Housing), but you are encouraged to provide responses across HUD Offices to demonstrate your programmatic breadth.

Unscored Responses: You may provide additional program knowledge (subfactor 1.A.) and program experience (subfactor 1.B.) after addressing the required number of scored responses for your applicant category. These unscored responses will not be scored and do not count toward your 50-page limit. If submitting unscored responses, applicants should not submit corresponding narratives for Rating Factors 2 or 3. Additional unscored responses may be used to make award decisions or to inform TA assignments after award. Applicants may not submit more than 8 unscored responses.

The review criteria are included in the Table below.

FY 20	24/2025 NOFO Points		
Ratin	g Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant		Points
A	Program Knowledge		10
В	Program Experience		13
С	Experience of Staff, Subrecipients, Contractors, and Consultants Form		8
D	Experience Building Diverse Teams		10
		Staff Qualifications	
E	Administrative and Award Management	Operating Policies and Procedures	10
		Monitoring and Oversight Protocols	
Ratin	g Factor 1 Total	•	51
Ratin	g Factor 2: Soundness of Approach	_ _	
A	Engagement Descriptions – Eligible TA Activities		29
Ratin	g Factor 2 Total	•	29
Ratin	g Factor 3: Delivering Superior Training and Prod	ucts	
A	Designing Effective Trainings		12
В	High Impact Products		8
Ratin	g Factor 3 Total		20
Other	Factors: Small and Disadvantaged Business		2
Prefe	rence Points: Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI)		2
TOTA	AL		104

Exceptions and Office-Specific Experience Priorities

- 1. Category A applicants are required to submit four scored responses. An exception is for Category A applicants that are only seeking funding from the Office of Public and Indian Housing-Native American Programs: you must only provide scored responses to programs within that office or cross-cutting topics from the cross-office category of the "Technical Assistance Focus Areas" table in Appendix I. Reminder: Category A, ONAP-only applicants may also apply to provide TA for a specialized program or topic (e.g. Gender-Based Violence and Homelessness, Tribal Homelessness, etc.) and still receive the breadth exception.
- 2. When responding to subfactor 1.B. for the Office of Native American Programs, the Office of HIV/AIDS Housing, the Office of Environment and Energy, or Cross-Office

Inflation Reduction Act TA only, you should consider the HUD Office-specific experience priorities in the table below. These experience priorities will be used to inform award decisions based on HUD's anticipated needs. This requirement applies to Category A applicants who choose to apply for these programs.

OFFICE	EXPERIENCE PRIORITIES
Office of Native American Programs (Native American Housing and Community Development TA)	You should describe experience serving Native youth, low-to-moderate income Native households in Indian Country, Native supportive housing, mortgage lending/loan leveraging in Indian Country, and/or infrastructure development in Indian Country.
Office of HIV/AIDS Housing (HOPWA, Office of Community Planning and Development- Special Needs)	You should indicate whether you or your team have directly assisted communities in preparing for HOPWA Formula Modernization changes, HOPWA-Cares Act, and HOPWA grant implementation, and how that experience will inform Community Compass TA activities.
Office of Environment and Energy	You should indicate whether you or your team have directly assisted HUD customers or other federal entities or grant recipients in their preparation of an Environmental Review. You should describe your experience in preparing records of environmental review to include specifically National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents, specifically documentation for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act, Site Contamination and Floodplain Management.
Cross-Office (Inflation Reduction Act TA)	You should indicate whether you or your team have directly assisted customers to understand and use clean energy and energy efficiency tax credits, and whether you have helped customers identify funding sources for co-funding and braiding in project budgets.

3. If you are requesting funding for AHAR and HDX, National HMIS Data Lab, or Sage Reporting Repository, you must identify three years of experience managing an information systems project with the federal government and at least two staff members with senior programming capacity.

Rating Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant

Maximum Points: 51

Applicants must respond to all the following sections:

- 1.A. Program Knowledge (10 points)
- 1.B. Program Experience (13 points)
- 1.C. Experience of Staff, Contractors, Consultants, and Subrecipients Form (8 points)
- 1.D. Experience Building Diverse Teams (10 points)

• 1.E. Administrative and Award Management (10 points)

SUBFACTOR 1.A: PROGRAM KNOWLEDGE (10 points)

This subfactor evaluates your knowledge of the programs and topics in the "Technical Assistance Focus Areas" tables in Appendix I or II. Category A applicants must describe knowledge in four of the programs or cross-cutting topics listed in Appendix I. Category B applicants must describe knowledge in at least one, up to four, programs or topics listed in Appendix II. This sub-factor measures the program knowledge of your organization, which includes your staff, contractors, consultants, and subrecipients. For subfactor 1.A., you must seek to answer the question: "What do I know?" Please see the Overview above in Section V.A.1 for additional details on structuring your response.

In your narrative response, you must:

- Demonstrate your understanding of common issues facing the program or cross-cutting topic (e.g., shortage of funding, subsidy layering, complicated technology, lack of regulations, applicability of cross-cutting Federal requirements, etc.), common barriers to implementing or complying with the program or focus area, and possible strategies for overcoming those issues and barriers.
- Describe TA needs within each program or focus area based on existing gaps.
- Reference within the context of your response any applicable laws, regulations, rules, requirements, and policies for the selected program or focus area.

SUBFACTOR 1.B: PROGRAM EXPERIENCE (13 points)

This subfactor evaluates your organization's experience in the programs and topics in the "Technical Assistance Focus Areas" table in Appendix I or II. **Category A** applicants must provide an overview of program experience and/or the TA you have conducted in four of the programs or cross-cutting topics listed in Appendix I. **Category B** applicants must provide an overview of program experience and/or the TA you have conducted in at least one, up to four, programs or topics listed in Appendix II. For subfactor 1.B., you must seek to answer the question: "What have I done with what I know?"

Please see the Overview above in Section V.A.1 for additional details on structuring your response.

In your narrative response, you must:

- Describe organizational experience gained in the last 10 years for any program or topic for which you are requesting funding.
- Speak to the overall program experience your organization will bring to the Community Compass program.
- Describe how your organization gained its program experience and in what capacity (e.g., as a TA provider, program administrator, evaluator, etc.)
- When was that program experience gained?
- What major accomplishments and outcomes resulted from this program experience? To the extent possible, you must quantify your accomplishments and outcomes.
 - If the program experience you describe includes development of tools and products available to view online, you must include website links.

SUBFACTOR 1.C: EXPERIENCE OF STAFF, SUBRECIPIENTS, CONTRACTORS, AND CONSULTANTS FORM (8 points)

This subfactor evaluates the breadth and depth of your TA team (i.e., staff, contractors, and consultants), as measured by the experience of your individual team members. Your response to subfactor 1.C. must be submitted using "Experience of Staff, Subrecipients, Contractors, and Consultants form," which can be found on Grants.gov as part of the application package.

In the form, you must list your individual staff, contractors, consultants, and subrecipients. You should indicate whether an individual has experience in each identified program/topic. Only those contractors, consultants, and subrecipients with whom you have entered into a formal agreement to participate in an award under this NOFO should be listed. Although the formal agreements for contractors and consultants are not required to be submitted as part of your NOFO application, if selected for funding, potential awardees may be required to furnish documentation as part of the administrative process. **Formal agreements** for **specialized experience subrecipients**, as defined in this NOFO, **are required at the time of application**; more details on this requirement for **Category A applicants only** are provided below.

You must identify at least two staff members with at least five years of experience each, in any program or topic for which you are requesting funding.

The experience form requires you to indicate the number of years of experience for each staff member, consultant, <u>subrecipient</u>, and contractor. This NOFO will allow 10 months or more to be rounded up to 1 year. If a staff member has nine months or less of experience, that staff person would be considered to have zero years of experience; a staff person with 11 months of experience would be considered to have one year of experience.

To maximize the assessment of breadth, you will find that the programs and cross-cutting topics on the Experience Form are grouped differently than the TA Focus Areas Table in Appendix I. We have created subgroupings, focusing on unduplicated years of experience by program. Data entered into these columns will be used to generate your breadth score.

Years of unduplicated experience must be reported for each HUD program area identified in the form, and total years should appear reasonable based on average life expectancy. For example, if Jane Doe has 5 years of experience with CDBG entitlements (2011-2016) and 8 years (2008-2016) with CDBG Disaster Recovery programs, the applicant would include 5 and 8 under the relevant program topics. Then, for the total years for the CDBG program, the applicant would include 8 years to represent unduplicated years. It is unreasonable for one consultant to have 130 years of experience in "CDBG Programs." If it is determined that you falsely inflated or inaccurately totaled an individual's years of experience in a specific category, a value of zero will be used in place of the individual's stated experience in the respective category. Please see the form instructions for examples on correctly calculating experience. HUD reserves the right to make the final determination regarding the years of experience claimed in this subfactor.

Please note: The Experience Form also includes a category labeled "Additional" which contains highly specific skills and experience. The information you enter for this category will not be used to generate your score for subfactor 1.C., but may be used to inform award decisions and, if funded, future TA assignments.

You need not indicate experience in every program/cross-cutting topic in the form, but if your form includes experience in more than one HUD Office (breadth), or more than one program/topic within a HUD Office (depth), you will receive more points (see the scoring description below, with an exception for Category B applicants and Category A applicants only seeking funding from the **Office of Public and Indian Housing- Native American Programs**).

Breadth (**5 points**): Measured by years of experience in more than one HUD Office. You will receive more points if your form includes individuals that have experience in more HUD Offices. The exception is for Category B applicants and Category A applicants that describe experience in the **Office of Public and Indian Housing- Native American Programs** only, the applicant's breadth score will be equally weighted on the depth score (e.g., 2 points for depth = 4 points for breadth). NOTE: Category A, ONAP-only applicants may also apply to provide TA for a specialized program or topic (e.g., Gender-Based Violence and Homelessness, Tribal Homelessness, etc.) and still receive the breadth exception.

Depth (**3 points**): Measured by the years of experience in more than one of the programs/topics for a particular office. You will receive more points for experience in more programs/topics within a HUD Office. In addition to identifying the years of experience for individuals, you must complete the "Qualifications Narrative" for each person in the form. You must include a description of:

- How the individual gained the experience, including the capacity in which the experience was gained (e.g., as a TA provider, program administrator, evaluator, etc.)
- The period during which the experience was gained
- The responsibilities held and/or activities performed
- The major accomplishments and outcomes achieved
- Relevant training, certifications, and/or qualifications

You should consider the office-specific experience priorities and must consider the minimum experience requirements, detailed at the beginning of this rating factor, when responding to this subfactor.

The Qualifications Narrative for each person will not be used to determine your score for subfactor 1.C., but the information in the Qualifications Narratives may be used to inform award decisions based on HUD's anticipated TA needs.

CATEGORY A APPLICANTS ONLY - Specialized Experience Subrecipient

The use of pass-throughs in the delivery of Community Compass TA gives experts with specialized experience, traditionally procured as consultants and contractors, a more defined and autonomous role in the design and delivery of TA. Please review the programs and topics identified as specialized for Category B applicants. Be sure that the qualifications narrative for any applicable individuals address any relative program requirements in Appendix II.

Category A applicants applying to deliver TA for the specialized experience topics must formalize an agreement with at least one subrecipient with experience in that topic even if the applicant has staff with that experience. A single subrecipient may satisfy this requirement for multiple specialized topics.

The subrecipient(s) identified in your response to this subfactor will receive federal funds from your award, as the need arises, and provide critical services and/or carry out critical activities during the delivery of technical assistance.

In addition to completing the subfactor 1.C. Experience form for the specialized experience subrecipients, you must:

- Provide resumes for key personnel from these critical partner entities. Each resume should be no longer than 3 pages. Key personnel are those expected to substantially contribute to the delivery of technical assistance.
- Provide letters of firm commitment, such as Memoranda of Understanding or other signed agreements from these specialized subrecipients.
- All letters of commitment must include: a period of performance (PoP) that covers the
 estimated PoP in Section II.D. and a description of the activities (i.e., specialized
 perspectives and services to be provided during the design and delivery of TA) covered
 by the agreement.

When organizing the application package, applicants should submit the resumes and letters of firm commitment listed above in File 7 according to the required Community Compass Application Organization Template.

SUBFACTOR 1.D: EXPERIENCE BUILDING DIVERSE TEAMS (10 points)

Effective capacity building requires delivering technical assistance tailored to the lived experience of HUD program customers, including direct beneficiaries of HUD programs, local and state governments, and non-governmental organizations. You must demonstrate a history of building teams composed of experts who can deliver culturally competent and population-specific TA.

This subfactor is not organized by program/cross-cutting topic. You should only provide one (1) response to the criteria in subfactor 1.D.

In your response, you must:

- Describe policies to promote and support racial equity in your organization's staffing and hiring practices, including recruitment efforts and outreach methods.
- This should include where you advertise and how postings are communicated; and how employees--and subcontractors if applicable--are trained.
- Demonstrate an established process of routine engagement of a diverse group of persons, particularly Black or Brown persons, with recent lived experience to solicit feedback on processes, systems, product development and implementation of technical assistance.
- Persons with lived experience may be a current or former resident, participant, beneficiary of HUD-funded programs (e.g., persons experiencing homelessness, residents of public and assisted housing, survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, persons experiencing housing discrimination, etc.). Examples could include employing people or subcontracting to organizations with persons with lived expertise.
- Describe, as applicable, how people are recruited, trained, and compensated to do this
 work and discuss the intentional and meaningful integration of their feedback in your
 organization's work.

- Describe experience building partnerships across different systems (e.g., homeless, criminal justice, foster care, healthcare, affordable housing, transportation, climate resilience, etc.), as well as experience working across local, state, federal and private funding sources, and how you were successful in achieving common goal(s) within these partnerships.
- Identify individuals within your organization or subrecipients, contractors and consultants
 with at least two years of experience providing direct TA or training on incorporating the
 voices and increasing the power of consumers, in particular Black or Brown consumers,
 within service systems or providing direct TA or training on implementing racial justice
 frameworks in systems change.

SUBFACTOR 1.E: ADMINISTRATIVE AND AWARD MANAGEMENT (10 points)

Subfactor 1.E. includes three parts:

- **Staff Qualifications** (3 points)
- Operating Policies and Procedures (2 points)
- Monitoring and Oversight Protocols (5 points)

This subfactor is not organized by program/cross-cutting topic. You should only provide one (1) response to the criteria in subfactor 1.E.

In addition to delivering high-quality TA to HUD's customers, we are seeking applicants who demonstrate the administrative capacity to effectively manage a federal award. In subfactor 1.E., you are expected to demonstrate your organization's staffing and effective control structure as contemplated at 2 CFR part 200.400, to assure proper and effective operation of award requirements and enhance regulatory compliance. You must also demonstrate your organization's internal controls over federal awards and reasonable assurance of compliance with 2 CFR part 200.303.

Staff Qualifications (3 points)

In this section, you must identify who will be responsible for key components of award management and their relevant qualifications. You must demonstrate that you have sufficient key management and administrative staff to effectively manage a federal award. You must describe the qualifications, experience, and responsibilities of personnel that will be responsible for the following components of award management:

- Compliance with federal/state/local requirements, including financial and performance reporting
- Management of staff/contractors/consultants and multiple work assignments of varying complexity
- Oversight of product development and TA delivery, including development of project scope, timeline, budget, and quality and accuracy of TA
- Administrative tasks such as billing and bookkeeping; sorting reports, invoices, and financial files for quick access; and communicating with others, including the project team and awarding entity (e.g., HUD), in relation to the overall budget of the award and any potential variances in the budgeted costs

The table below provides an example of how you could provide the required information.

Name	Role	Qualifications/Experience	Responsibilities

Operating Policies and Procedures (2 points)

In this section, you must describe how your organization's policies will help implement federal award requirements and retain highly qualified staff.

You must include a description of your organization's written policies for:

- Managing multiple projects and awards, including periods of performance and spending
- Collecting and reporting on expenditures and performance measures
- Coordinating activities with multiple organizations
- Employee retention and succession planning, including overcoming unforeseen circumstances, such as the departure of essential staff or if it is determined that the assigned staff has inadequate skills needed to complete a current TA engagement or activity. Such procedures must demonstrate the ability to ensure continuity in the delivery of the TA or other activity.
- Continuous professional development for staff, consultants, and contractors to ensure continued knowledge of award administrative requirements, including new laws, policies, and procedures

Monitoring and Oversight Protocols (5 points)

In this section, you must describe your organization's protocols to ensure the effectiveness of your operating policies, successful award management, and mitigation of the occurrence of fraud, waste, and abuse.

You must describe your organization's protocols for monitoring and overseeing the Community Compass award effectively, including:

- Ensuring acceptable work and products are provided before submitting invoices to HUD and paying contractors and/or consultants.
- Managing and monitoring the performance of contractors and consultants and the ability to comply with award requirements, including the "Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements for HUD recipients" in Section VI.B. of this NOFO, and the terms, conditions, and specifications of contracts or other formal agreements.
- Financial processes for managing federal awards and monitoring award expenditures; refer to your existing accounting and personnel policies and procedures that include necessary management controls.

Rating Factor 2: Soundness of Approach

Maximum Points: 29

Rating Factor 2 focuses on your capacity to design and deliver excellent technical assistance through delivery of the eligible activities. The response for Rating Factor 2 must describe at least one engagement completed within the last five years where at least one of the following eligible activities was delivered:

- Needs Assessments
- Direct TA and Capacity Building Engagements
- Develop and Maintain Tools and Products
- Self-Directed and Group Learning
- Knowledge Management
- Data Analysis, Reporting, and Performance Measurement (e.g., HMIS TA, NHDAP four projects, NAHASDA)*

Refer to Section I.A.1.c to understand the purpose and scope of eligible activities listed in this NOFO. Rating Factor 2 must align with the applicant's scored responses from Rating Factor 1.A. and 1.B. See the Overview in Section V.A.1 for additional details on structuring your response. Note that the prior engagement(s) described in Rating Factor 2 can be different from the prior engagement(s) described in Rating Factor 3, but must align with the programs/cross-cutting topics described in Rating Factor 1.

Your response is not limited to one engagement. Applicants may demonstrate the soundness of their approach through discussion of multiple engagements. All engagements must be for the same programs/topics discussed in Rating Factor 1. Your narrative response must include engagement descriptions that:

- Identify when the activities were completed.
- Identify the program or cross-cutting topic from your Rating Factor 1.A. and 1.B response
- Identify the Community Compass eligible activity(ies) listed in Section I.A.1.c. of this NOFO (i.e., needs assessments; direct TA and capacity building; tools and products; selfdirected and group learning; knowledge management; data analysis, reporting, and performance measurement; NHDAP four projects; and NAHASDA allocation formula administration and negotiated rulemaking). Applicants may discuss how multiple eligible activities were deployed in each engagement.

You will receive **up to 29 points** for the extent to which you demonstrate capacity to effectively plan and execute at least one of the eligible activities. Your response must:

- Clearly describe the assisted entity's capacity issues or needs and the process used to identify the needs
- Describe the approach taken to addressing the identified capacity issues or needs, including considerations made for the type of eligible activity (or activities) used in the engagement
- Describe innovations, novel approaches, and/or high impact techniques related to the eligible activity deployed in the engagement
- Describe meaningful actions your organization took to ensure the training content research, production, and delivery was conducted in an equitable manner. In this context, equitable manner means the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons;

- persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality
- Demonstrate collaborative approaches used for programs and/or policy areas, across HUD and other federal, state, and/or local agencies, where coordination was essential (e.g., housing, health, education, economic development, and workforce development).

Rating Factor 3: Superior Training and Products

Maximum Points: 20

Rating Factor 3 includes two (2) sub-factors:

- **3.A. Designing effective training** (12 points)
- **3.B. High impact products** (8 points)

You must describe engagements completed within the last five years of the publication date of this NOFO (subfactor 3.A) and submit example products that demonstrate your organization's approach to producing high impact work (subfactor 3.B). Each engagement must align with the **scored** programs or cross-cutting topics you described in subfactors 1.A. and 1.B. Note that the products(s) described in Rating Factor 3 can be different from the engagements described in Rating Factor 2, but must align with the programs/cross-cutting topics described in Rating Factor 1

SUBFACTOR 3.A: DESIGNING EFFECTIVE TRAINING (12 points)

For each of the scored programs or cross-cutting topics described in subfactors 1.A. and 1.B., you must describe one prior engagement that demonstrates your organization's effective use of instructional design principles (see definition of instructional design) and capacity to deliver culturally competent training. In this context, HUD considers instructional design principles as: analyzing instructional needs, designing learning objectives and instructional strategies, developing instructional content and materials, implementing instructional strategies, accessibility, and evaluating results of the instruction provided.

The objective of each narrative is to convey your organization's approach to ensuring customers acquire and retain information that ultimately builds their capacity. You must include the following in your response:

- The period of performance and type of entity assisted (e.g., PHA)
- The program or cross-cutting topic from subfactor 1.A. or 1.B,
- The specific customer technical assistance needs,
- A description of instructional design techniques used in the engagement,
- How you measured whether the engagement was effective, including quantitative or qualitative measures used,
- Describe how the engagement represents your organization's approach to ensuring TA is equitable and accessible,
- The results of the engagement.

SUBFACTOR 3.B: HIGH IMPACT PRODUCTS (8 points)

You must provide a brief product description and attach a file or hyperlink to one example product from each of the scored programs or cross-cutting topics described in subfactors 1.A and 1.B (i.e., four products for Category A applicants and at least one, or up to four for Category B).

If submitting a hyperlink, the applicant is responsible for ensuring the hyperlink is active from the date of application submission to the date when awards are announced. If submitting attachment(s), each attached file must be formatted as follows:

'ApplicantName.RF3B.ExampleX', where 'X' is the product number noted in each narrative for Subfactor 3.B.

Your product description must include the following:

- A product number which cross-references to the attachment or hyperlink submitted with your application. Applicants should provide a unique number for each product and associated description. The product number is used to ensure HUD review teams associate the correct product with the associated description,
- Whether the associated product is a hyperlink or attachment,
- A hyperlink to the associated product if no attachment is submitted with the application.
- Date of publication,
- A short description of the product.

This program does not offer points for Section 3.

2. Other Factors

Small Disadvantaged Business: In the FY 2024/2025 NOFO, applicants registered as a Small Disadvantaged Business with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will receive up to two (2) points. HUD will verify applicant status using the information available on www.SAM.Gov.

Policy Initiative Preference Points

This NOFO supports the following policy initiatives, for which a maximum of two (2) preference points may be awarded. Preference points are added to your overall application score.

Minority-Serving Institutions (2 points)

You may voluntarily choose to address preference point policy initiatives in your application. Addressing these policy initiatives is not a requirement to apply for or receive an award. If you voluntarily choose to address a policy initiative in your application, you will be required to adhere to the information submitted with your application should you receive an award. The proposed information will be included as a binding requirement of any Federal award you receive as a term and condition of that award.

This NOFO does not offer preference points for Climate Change

This NOFO does not offer Environmental Justice preference points.

This NOFO does not offer HBCU preference points.

Minority-Serving Institutions

An applicant designated by the U.S. Department of Education as an MSI will receive up to two (2) preference points when the application includes documentation of the applicant's status as an HBCU, Hispanic-serving institution, Tribal-controlled postsecondary institution, Alaska Native-serving or Native-Hawaiian-serving institution, Predominantly Black Institution, Asian and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, or Native American-serving nontribal institution. This policy preference is pursuant to Executive Orders 13985, 14041, 14045, and 14031.

An applicant partnering with an HBCU, Hispanic-Serving Institution, Tribal-controlled postsecondary institution, Alaskan Native-serving or Native-Hawaiian-serving institution, Predominantly Black Institution, Asian and Pacific Islander-serving institution, or Native American-serving nontribal institution will receive up to two (2) Preference Points when the application includes a Letter of Commitment certifying that a partnership is in place and signed by an authorizing official of the MSI and documentation of the status of college or university as an HBCU, Hispanic-serving institution, Tribal-controlled postsecondary institution, Alaska Native-serving or Native-Hawaiian-serving institution, Predominantly Black Institution, Asian and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, or Native American-serving nontribal institution. This policy preference is pursuant to Executive Orders 13985, 14041, 14045, and 14031.

B. Review and Selection Process

1. Past Performance

In evaluating applications for funding, HUD will consider an applicant's past performance in managing funds. Items HUD will consider include, but are not limited to:

OMB-designated repositories of governmentwide data, as noted in 2 CFR 200.206(a)

The ability to account for funds in compliance with applicable reporting and recordkeeping requirements

Timely use of funds received from HUD

Timely submission and quality of reports submitted to HUD

Meeting program requirements

Meeting performance targets as established in the HUD agreement

The applicant's organizational capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities

Timely completion of activities and receipt and expenditure of promised matching or leveraged funds

The number of persons served or targeted for assistance

Promoting self-sufficiency and economic independence

Other

HUD may reduce scores based on the past performance review, if specified under V.A. Rating Factors. Whenever possible, HUD will obtain and review past performance information. If this review results in an adverse finding related to integrity of performance, HUD reserves the right

to take any of the remedies provided in the <u>Pre-Selection Review of Performance section of the Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD Financial Assistance Programs.</u>

2. Assessing Applicant Risk

In evaluating risks posed by applicants, HUD may use a risk-based approach and may consider any items such as the following:

- (1) Financial stability;
- (2) Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
- (3) History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, failing to make significant progress in a timely manner, failing to meet planned activities in a timely manner, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;
- (4) Reports and findings from audits performed under Subpart F—Audit Requirements of 2 CFR part 200 or the reports and findings of any other available audits; and
- (5) The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

As required by 2 CFR 200.205, HUD will evaluate the risks to each HUD program posed by each applicant and will conduct due diligence to ensure an applicant's ability to manage federal funds. The results from this evaluation will inform funding decisions. If we determine that an award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the award. In evaluating risks, HUD will consider factors found in 2 CFR 200.205, as well as publicly-available information, including information from your organization's website, media sources, Inspector General or Government Accountability Office reports or findings, or hotline or other complaints that have proved to have merit.

3. Integrity

HUD evaluates the integrity of the applicant as reflected in government-wide websites, information in HUD's files, the Federal "Do Not Pay" website, public information, and information received during HUD's Name Check Review process. If this integrity evaluation results in an adverse finding, we reserve the right to take remedies including:

- Denial of funding, or with a renewal or continuing award, suspension or termination of an award immediately for cause
- Requiring the removal of any key individual(s) from association with management or implementation of the award
- Making provisions or revisions regarding the method of payment or financial reporting requirements

4. Review Types

All members of each review team will consist of HUD staff.

Threshold:

HUD staff will first review each application to determine whether it meets the threshold requirements as described in NOFO section III.D. "Threshold Requirements."

Applications meeting threshold eligibility requirements will be scored according to the rating criteria in the NOFO.

- Program-specific teams will review each of your program-specific responses based on the criteria provided for subfactors 1.A. and 1.B., and Rating Factors 2 and 3. The four scores will be averaged to generate a score representing all four responses, with a maximum of 77 points.
 - Scores will not be averaged for Category B applicants only submitting one scored response.
- An automated breadth and depth score will be generated for subfactor 1.C. for the years of experience you listed based on the mean years of experience reported by all NOFO applicants for your category, with a maximum 8 points added to the average score.
 - Category A ONAP only and Category B exception: The breadth score is weighted on the depth score. See the table below for details.

Depth Score	1	2	3
Weighted Breadth Score	3	4	5

• Subfactors 1.D. and 1.E. will be reviewed by a team of GTRs. Your responses will be scored based on the criteria provided, with a maximum of 15 points to be added to the average score.

For Category B applicants only providing one scored response, subfactor 1.D. will be scored by the same program-specific team reviewing subfactors 1.A. and 1.B., and Rating Factors 2 and 3.

Hypothetical Scoring Example

- You include responses aligned to four programs: HOME, ESG, Public Housing (PH) Capital Fund, and Tribal HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH)
- We provide your subfactors 1.A. and 1.B and Rating Factors 2 and 3, responses for each program to program-specific review teams.
- Each team of reviewers scores their assigned narrative responses against the maximum points for each subfactor and rating factor. The resulting scores are:

	Subfactor 1A-max 10 pts	Subfactor 1B-max 13 pts.	Rating Factor 2- max 29 pts.	Rating Factor 3- max 20 pts.	Total per team-max 72 pts.
HOME	7	10	27	15	59
ESG	6	8	28	16	58
PH Capital Fund	8	9	21	12	50

Tribal HUD	8	9	28	18	63
VASH					

- We then average the four scores to arrive at a final partial application score: (59 + 58 + 50 + 63) / 4 = 57.5 points
- Next, we add your scores for **Subfactors 1.C.** (max 8 points), 1.D. (max 10 points), and 1.E (max 10 points).
- The final total application score is calculated as such, 57.5 + 8 + 10 + 10 = 85.5 points.

Minimum Scores:

The minimum overall score for an application to be considered for funding is 75, not including preference points. However, if no eligible applicants or an insufficient number of eligible applicants for a particular funding source score at least 75 points, we may award funds from that funding source to an applicant scoring below 75 points.

5. Fundable Applicants List

After applications are scored, we will list applications by applicant type and funding year requested in the applications (i.e., one list for each funding year). The amount awarded to each fundable application (i.e., an application with a score of 75 or more points overall, unless no applicants or an insufficient number of applicants for a particular funding source score 75 points or above) is determined according to section V.B. 6. "Funding Decisions." To ensure coverage across HUD's TA priorities, applications may not be funded in ranking/score order.

6. Funding Decisions

In determining the amount awarded to a successful applicant, we will take into consideration the amount of funds available, the final score assigned to the application by HUD reviewers, and our overall needs, including establishing a range of subject matter expertise and geographic coverage, as well as your capacity to serve HUD's customers across multiple programs (for Category A). For prior TA award recipients, we may consider information from a Contracting Officer, GTR, GTM, POTAC, and/or other HUD staff, as appropriate, on past performance, as well as award balances not committed to TA tasks or work plans. These considerations may reduce your award. There may be insufficient funds available to make an award to every application scoring within the fundable range.

7. Corrections to Deficient Applications

You will have 14 calendar days to provide missing information requested by HUD. Instructions on submission of cures for deficiencies will be provided by HUD.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Award Notices

Following the evaluation process, HUD will notify successful applicants of their selection for funding. HUD will also notify other applicants, whose applications were received by the deadline but were not chosen for award. Notifications will be sent by email to the person listed as the AOR in item 21 of the SF-424.

1. Final Award

After HUD has made selections, HUD will finalize specific terms of the award and budget in consultation with the selected applicant. If HUD and the selected applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, or the selected applicant fails to provide requested information, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant. HUD may also impose specific conditions on an award as provided under 2 CFR 200.208.

2. Adjustments to Funding

To ensure fair distribution of funds and enable the purposes or requirements of a specific program to be met, HUD reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in an application.

- a. HUD may fund no portion of an application that:
 - (1) Is ineligible for funding under applicable statutory or regulatory requirements;
 - (2) Fails, in whole or in part, to meet the requirements of this notice;
 - (3) Duplicates activities funded by other Federal awards; or
 - (4) Duplicates activities funded in a prior year.
- b. HUD may adjust the funding for an application to ensure funding diversity, geographic diversity, and alignment with HUD administrative priorities.
- c. If an applicant turns down an award offer, or if HUD and an applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, HUD may withdraw the award offer and make an offer of funding to another eligible application.
- d. If funds remain after all selections have been made, remaining funds may be made available within the current FY for other competitions within the program area, may be held for future competitions (if allowable in accordance with the applicable appropriation or authorizing statute), or may be used as otherwise provided by authorizing statute or appropriation.
- e. If, after announcement of awards made under the current NOFO, additional funds become available either through the current appropriations, a supplemental appropriation, other appropriations or recapture of funds, HUD may, in accordance with the appropriation, use the additional funds to provide additional funding to an applicant awarded less than the requested amount of funds to make the full (or nearer to full) award, and/or to fund additional applicants that were eligible to receive an award but for which there were no funds available.

3. Funding Errors

If HUD commits an error that, when corrected, would cause selection of an applicant during the funding round of a Program NOFO, HUD may select that applicant for funding, subject to the availability of funds. If funding is not available to award in the current fiscal year, HUD may make an award to this applicant during the next fiscal year if funding is available.

4. Notifications. An award notification sent to a successful applicant is not an authorization to begin performance. Upon notification that you have been selected for award, we will request additional information from you or may work with you to amend information already submitted as part of the application.

- **5.** Negotiation and Administrative and Financial (A&F) Process. After HUD has made selections, HUD will negotiate specific terms of the funding agreement and budget with selected applicants. If HUD and a selected applicant do not successfully conclude negotiations in a timely manner, or a selected applicant fails to provide requested information, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant. HUD may impose special conditions on an award as provided under 2 CFR 200.207:
 - Based on HUD's review of the applicant's risk under 2 CFR 200.205;
 - When the applicant or recipient has a history of failure to comply with the general or specific terms and conditions of a Federal award;
 - When the applicant or recipient fails to meet expected performance goals contained in a Federal award; or
 - When the applicant or recipient is not otherwise responsible.

The A&F process is required for any application that receives funding under this NOFO. Any application that receives funding for FY 2023 (TCTA), FY 2024 Community Compass, and/or FY 2025 Community Compass is required to complete the A&F process only once; however, HUD, at its discretion, may require confirmation of certain certifications and assurances. During the A&F you must submit administrative and financial information to comply with the cooperative agreement provisions. The requirements at 2 CFR Part 200 govern all awards executed pursuant to this NOFO, including commercial/for-profit entities. Non-compliance with the applicable uniform administrative requirements and implementation of those requirements along with the cooperative agreement provisions may cause HUD to impose sanctions or restrictions or terminate your award. Additionally, non-compliance may negatively affect your ability to receive FY 2025 funding under this NOFO.

- **6. Budget form**. All applicants must submit a HUD-424-CB form with their application because HUD must report indirect costs to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Due to the nature of the Community Compass program and the demand-response system, applicants responding to this NOFO will not know at the time of application the specific activities they will be asked to complete during the performance period, the location of the engagements, or their duration. Therefore, applicants should complete the HUD-424-CB form according to the instructions in section IV.B.
- **7. Administrative budget**. We require that selected applicants participate in negotiations to determine an administrative budget. The administrative budget must clearly identify the labor, associated indirect costs, travel, and material and supply costs associated with your management of the award. The administrative budget must track the different sources of funding and associate administrative costs to each source.

8. Maximum administrative and coordination cost limits.

a. Unless HUD's authorized official or a federal directive specifically provides otherwise, up to fifteen (15) percent of the award made under this NOFO may be used for the purpose of paying administrative and coordination costs. This includes up to five (5) percent of the award for coordination costs and up to ten (10) percent for administrative costs. Specific cost limits by award amount are negotiated between HUD and the selected applicant before cooperative agreement execution and during the project period. Costs

- may be denied or modified if it is determined that they are not allowable, allocable, and/or reasonable.
- b. The selected applicant must segregate administrative and coordination costs in separate cost centers.
- **9. Award Announcements.** While we intend to announce all awards at the same time, we may elect to separately announce all awards within one or more funding sources. If we do stagger award announcement by funding source, selected applicants will receive multiple notifications instead of a single notification. Until all awards are announced, we must adhere to requirements set forth in the HUD Reform Act.

B. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Applicants and Recipients of Financial Assistance Awards

Unless otherwise specified, the following requirements apply and are detailed on HUD's Funding Opportunity page in the document titled, "Administrative, National & Departmental Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance – 2024." You must review each requirement to ensure compliance is considered when preparing your application materials (e.g., staff, budget, and timeline). Failure to comply with these requirements may impact your ability to receive or retain a financial assistance award from HUD.

- 1. Compliance with The Fair Housing Act (<u>42 U.S.C. 3601-3619</u>) and implementing regulations at <u>24 CFR part 100 et seq</u>
- 2. Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, <u>42 U.S.C. 2000d-2000d-4</u>)(Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs) and implementing regulations at <u>24 CFR</u> part 1
- 3. Compliance with the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146
- 4. Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8
- 5. Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq
- 6. Compliance with Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements, including 24 CFR 5.150 et seq
- 7. Compliance with Economic Opportunities for Low-and Very Low-income Persons (12 U.S.C. 1701u) requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR part 75
- 8. Compliance with Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requirements, including those listed within <u>Federal Register Notice</u>, <u>FR-4878-N-02</u> (also see <u>HUD</u>'s webpage)
- 9. Compliance with Accessible Technology requirements, including those listed on in <u>HUD's</u> Policy on Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and Accessible Technology
- 10. Compliance with Equal Access Requirements (e.g., 24 CFR 5.105(a)(2) and 5.106)

- 11. Compliance with Ensuring the Participation of Small Disadvantaged Business, and Women-Owned Business requirements at <u>2 CFR 200.321</u>
- 12. Compliance with Energy Efficient and Sustainable by Design
- 13. Compliance with Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (42 USC 4601 et seq.) (URA) requirements, 49 CFR part 24, and applicable program regulations
- 14. Compliance with Participation in HUD-Sponsored Program Evaluation
- 15. Compliance with OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR part 200)
- 16. Compliance with Drug-Free Workplace requirements (2 CFR part 2429)
- 17. Compliance with the requirements related to safeguarding resident/client files (e.g., 2 CFR 200.303(e))
- 18. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (2 CFR part 170) (FFATA), as amended
- 19. Compliance with Eminent Domain
- 20. Compliance with Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities requirements, including 24 CFR parts 8 and 100; 28 CFR part 35
- 21. Compliance with applicable Violence Against Women Act requirements in the Housing Chapter of VAWA, 34 U.S.C. 12491-12496, 24 CFR part 5, subpart L, and program-specific regulations, if applicable
- 22. Compliance with Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards/Code of Conduct, including <u>2 CFR 200.317</u>, <u>2 CFR 200.318(c)</u> and other applicable conflicts of interest requirements
- 23. Compliance with the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act procurement requirements
- 24. Compliance with System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements at 2 CFR part 25
- 25. Compliance with section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)) and implementing regulations at 2 CFR part 175 (Award Term for Trafficking in Persons)
- 26. Compliance with Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters (see <u>Appendix XII to 2 CFR part 200</u>)
- 27. Compliance with Suspension and Debarment regulations (2 CFR part 2424 and 2 CFR part 180)
- 28. Compliance with environmental justice requirements that apply in accordance with Executive Orders 12898 and 14008, and OMB Memorandum M-21-28, which implements the *Justice40 Initiative*, section 223 of Executive Order 14008.

- 29. Compliance with <u>HUD Secretary Fudge's April 12, 2022 memorandum</u>, "Eliminating Barriers That May Unnecessarily Prevent Individuals with Criminal Histories from Participation in HUD Programs"
- 30. Compliance with equity requirements, including racial equity and underserved communities and LGBTQ+ requirements that apply in accordance with Executive Orders <u>13985</u>, <u>13988</u>, and 14091
- 31. Compliance with 41 U.S.C. § 4712, which includes informing your employees in writing of their rights and remedies, in the predominant native language of the workforce. Under 41 U.S.C. § 4712, employees of a contractor, subcontractor, grantee, subgrantee, and personal services contractor may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant. (See Federal Contractor or Grantee Protections | Office of Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development (hudoig.gov)
- 32. Compliance with 2 CFR 200.216, Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment and Executive Orders 14091 and 14110, which includes prohibition on the use of HUD funds to purchase or fund any form of facial or biometric recognition technology for the purpose of surveillance or any other use that may adversely impact equitable access to housing

Environmental Review

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.34(a)(3) and (a)(9), 58.35(b)(3), and 50.19(b)(3), (b)(9), and (b)(13) activities funded under this NOFO are exempt or categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321) and not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities.

Remedies for Noncompliance

HUD may apply the remedies at <u>2 CFR 200.339</u> or impose additional conditions to remedy noncompliance with any Federal State, or local statutes, regulations, or terms and conditions of the financial assistance award. If noncompliance cannot be remedied, HUD may terminate a Federal award, in whole or in part, for any of the reasons specified in <u>2 CFR 200.340</u>, Termination.

Applicants are encouraged to review the TA Termination Guide, which can be found at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/ota/community-compass-distressed-cities.html.

Lead-Based Paint Requirements

When providing education or counseling on buying or renting housing that may include pre-1978 housing under your HUD award you must inform clients of their rights under the Lead Disclosure Rule (24 CFR part 35, subpart A), and, if the focus of the education or counseling is on rental or purchase of HUD-assisted pre-1978 housing, then you must also inform clients of the Lead Safe Housing Rule (subparts B, R, and, as applicable, F - M).

C. Reporting

HUD requires recipients to submit performance and financial reports under OMB guidance and program instructions.

1. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters

You should be aware that if the total Federal share of your Federal award includes more than \$500,000 over the period of performance, the award will be subject to post award reporting requirements reflected in <u>Appendix XII to 2 CFR part 200</u>, <u>Award Terms and Conditions for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters</u>.

2. Race, Ethnicity and Other Data Reporting

HUD requires recipients that provide HUD-funded program benefits to individuals or families to report data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households who are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of HUD programs in order to carry out the Department's responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 562 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987. These authorities prohibit discrimination in housing and in programs receiving financial assistance from the Department and direct the Secretary to administer the Department's programs and activities in a manner affirmatively to further these policies and to collect certain data to assess the extent of compliance with these policies. Each recipient shall keep such records and submit to the Department timely, complete, and accurate compliance reports at such times, and in such form and containing such information, as the Department may determine to be necessary to enable it to ascertain whether the recipient has complied or is complying with 24 CFR parts 1 and 121. In general, recipients should have available for the Department data showing the demographics of beneficiaries of Federally-assisted programs.

3. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) as amended (FFATA)

FFATA requires information on Federal awards be made available to the public via a single, searchable website, which is www.USASpending.gov. Accordingly, each award HUD makes under this NOFO will be subject to the requirements provided by the Award Term in Appendix A to 2 CFR part 170, "REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION," unless the Federal funding for the award (including funding that may be added through amendments) is not expected to equal or exceed \$30,000. Requirements under this Award Term include filing subaward information in the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS.gov) by the end of the month following the month in which the recipient awards any sub-award equal to or greater than \$30,000.

4. Program-Specific Reporting Requirements

- Program Progress. You will be required to submit Quarterly Performance Reports in a manner specified by HUD, with actual outputs and outcomes achieved and a narrative explanation of any disparity between projected and actual results. Quarterly Performance Reports must comply with requirements described in 2 CFR 200.327-329.
- Accounting for Costs Separately. If you receive funds from multiple sources under this NOFO, you will be required to account for costs separately under each award.

D. Debriefing

For a period of at least 120 calendar days, beginning 30 calendar days after the public announcement of awards under this NOFO, if requested, HUD will provide a debriefing related to their application. The AOR or the AOR's successor must submit a written request for debriefing via mail or email to the POC in Section VII Agency Contact(s) of this NOFO. Information provided during a debriefing may include the applicant's final score for each rating factor, final evaluator comments for each rating factor, and the final assessment indicating the basis upon which funding was approved or denied.

VII. AGENCY CONTACT(S)

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFO. Questions regarding specific program requirements for this NOFO should be directed to the POC listed below.

Name:

Office of Technical Assistance

Phone:

Email:

communitycompass@hud.gov

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals who have speech or communication disabilities may use a relay service to reach the agency contact. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, visit the webpage for the Federal Communications Commission.

Note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications.

VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Compliance of this NOFO with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the environment has been made for this NOFO in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 50, which implement section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.4332(2)(C)). The FONSI is available for inspection at HUD's Funding Opportunities web page.

Native American Housing and Community Development TA.

Native American Housing and Community Development TA funds awarded under this NOFO are subject to Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Act (25 U.S. C 450e(b)). Preference in the award of subcontracts for Native American Housing and Community Development TA-funded selected applicants under this NOFO shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned economic enterprises as defined in section 3 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1452). In section 3 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974, "economic enterprise" is defined as any Indian-owned commercial, industrial, or business activity established or organized for the purpose of profit, except the Indian ownership must constitute not less than 51% of the enterprise.

2. Web Resources.

- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
- Assistance Listing(formerly CFDA)
- Climate Action Plan
- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)
- Code of Conduct Requirements and E-Library
- Environmental Review
- Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations
- Fair Housing Rights and Obligations
- Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Subaward Reporting System
- Grants.gov
- Healthy Homes Strategic Plan
- Healthy Housing Reference Manual
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- HUD's Disability Overview
- HUD's Strategic Plan
- HUD Grants
- HUD Reform Act
- HUD Reform Act: Hud Implementing Regulations
- Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- NOFO Webcasts
- Procurement of Recovered Materials
- Promise Zones
- Rural.gov
- Rural Partners Network Community Networks
- Section 3
- State Point of Contact List
- System for Award Management (SAM)
- Real Estate Acquisition and Relocation
- Unique Entity Identifier
- USA Spending

3. Program Relevant Web Resources

- Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program
- Community Compass & Distressed Cities TA Policies, Procedures, and Guidance

APPENDIX

Appendix I: CATEGORY A Technical Assistance Focus Areas Table

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOCUS AREAS		
HUD OFFICE	PROGRAM OR CROSS-CUTTING TOPIC	TA Funding Source
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT	 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement and Non-Entitlement Programs Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program Community wealth building and economic development related to structuring and underwriting business and real estate loans CDBG Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR), CDBG Mitigation (CDBG-MIT), National Disaster Resilience Competition (CDBG-NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) grants* Community Project Funding Community Wealth-Building and Economic Development* Manufactured Housing Place-Based Initiatives* Recovery Housing Program (RHP) Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Rural Housing Assistance Programs 	Departmental TA
	12. HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)	Departmental TA, HOME Legacy TA
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT- SPECIAL NEEDS	13. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act 14. Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Departmental TA
	15. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act 1. Tribal Homelessness* 2. Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) 3. Continuum of Care (CoC) program NOTE: ESG and CoC may be addressed in one scored, program response.	McKinney- Vento TA, Departmental TA
	16. Unsheltered/Rural	McKinney- Vento TA, Departmental TA

	17. Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Technical Assistance (TA) 18. National Homeless Data Analysis Project a. Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) and Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) b. HMIS Data and Technical Standards c. National HMIS Data Lab d. Sage HMIS Reporting Repository (Sage) NOTE: NHDAP includes four projects; you may address multiple NHDAP projects in one program-specific response if NHDAP is chosen as one of your scored programs.	National Homeless Data Analysis Project
	19. Addressing the Housing Needs of Youth*	Youth Homelessness TA
OFFICE OF FIELD POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	20. Community Violence Intervention*	Departmental TA
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING	 21. Public Housing Capital Fund 22. Public Housing Operating Fund 23. Public Housing management and Occupancy 24. Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) NOTE: RAD also appears under the Office of Housing, but only one program-specific response is needed if it is chosen as one of your scored programs. 25. Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) 26. Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration 27. Choice Neighborhoods 28. Housing Choice Vouchers, including Project-Based vouchers, HUD-VASH Vouchers, Mainstream Vouches, and other special purpose vouchers 29. Strategies for leasing and housing search 30. Income and rent calculation 31. Project-Based Vouchers 32. ConnectHome 33. Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) 	Departmental TA

	 34. Jobs Plus 35. Mobility-related services 36. Improving PHA Performance 37. Future of Public HousingRepositioning efforts to move to a stable PH platform 38. Targeted technical assistance to PHAs under the direction of a federal monitor 39. Improving physical conditions/NSPIRE compliance 40. Utility benchmarking 41. Energy building standards 42. Waste diversion programs 	
	43. PHA Receivership and Recovery	PHA Administrative Receivership and Recovery TA
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING - NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS	 44. Indian Housing Block Grant (Formula and Competitive Grants) 45. Title VI Loan Guarantee Program 46. Section 184 Home Loan Guarantee 47. Tribal HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) 48. Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) 49. Other HUD programs designed to address the needs of Native American families and Indian country 	Native American Housing and Community Development TA
TROGRAMS	50. Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant and Loan Guarantee (NHHBG/184A) 51. Other HUD programs designed to address the needs of Native Hawaiians and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands	Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant TA
OFFICE OF HOUSING	 52. Multifamily Housing Programs, including Project-Based Section 8, Supportive Housing for the Elderly (Section 202), and Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities (Section 811) 53. Housing Counseling 54. Single Family Housing Initiatives 55. Manufactured Housing Community Financing Program 	Departmental TA

OFFICE OF FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY	 56. Multifamily Housing Preservation, including Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) 57. Multifamily Housing Production Initiatives 58. Addressing climate resilience, energy efficiency, and indoor air quality in HUD-assisted housing* 59. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) 60. Fair Housing Act (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968) 61. National Fair Housing Training Academy* 	Departmental TA National Fair Housing Training
OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH	62. Thriving Communities Technical Assistance* 63. Eviction Protection Grant Program 64. Historically Black Colleges & Universities/Center of Excellence and Hispanic-Serving Institutions/Center of Excellence	Academy Departmental TA
CROSS-OFFICE: ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT, RELOCATION AND REAL ESTATE, AND OTHER CROSS- CUTTING REQUIREMENTS	 65. Energy benchmarking and utility data analysis 66. Energy Auditing and retro-commissioning 67. Community engagement and economic opportunity programs 68. Davis Bacon 69. Economic Opportunities for Low and Very-Low Income Persons (Section 3) 70. Green Jobs Programs 71. Energy efficiency and high-performance building retrofits and new construction for assisted housing properties 72. Net Zero Energy Building Standards and Design 73. Energy Planning and Energy Audits for retrofit and New Construction 74. Use of Federal, State, and local utility Energy Incentives in Planning Retrofits and New Construction 75. Renewable Energy integration in Assisted Buildings 76. Decarbonization TA* 77. Environmental Reviews for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 	Departmental TA

80 81 82 83 84 85 86	related federal environmental laws and authorities* Integration of housing and health related services Knowledge management, including the HUD Exchange for FY2024 funding only Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes NSPIRE and Inspection related Technical Assistance Partnerships between Continuums of Care (CoCs) and Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) Smoke-Free Housing Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200) Uniform Relocation Act (URA) and Section 104(d) requirements Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)* Manufactured Housing Communities TA	
90 91 91 92 93 94	. Inflation Reduction Act . Addressing the housing needs of diverse populations* . Addressing the housing needs of older adults, persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities . Addressing the housing needs of people exiting jails and prisons and re-entry housing coordination* . Gender-Based Violence and Homelessness* . Mental Health, Substance Use, and Homelessness* . Local Housing Initiatives such as but not limited to zoning issues, etc Leveraging Healthcare and Services*	McKinney- Vento TA, Departmental TA

^{*}This is a specialized program or topic; if selected as one of your scored responses, refer to Appendix II for program-specific requirements.

Appendix II: CATEGORY B Technical Assistance Focus Areas Table

Category B applicants are applying to provide TA for the specialized programs and topics (Appendix II) ONLY.

Please note specialized programs also appear on the general TA focus areas table for Category A applicants interested in providing TA across multiple HUD programs and topics.

Specialized Programs and Topics	Requirements for Narrative Response	Funding Source
ADDRESSING CLIMATE RESILIENCE, ENERGY EFFICIENCY, AND QUALITY IN HUD- ASSISTED HOUSING	 Assessing and analyzing utility consumption (including the use of EPA's Portfolio Manager), carbon emission, and climate resilience at the property level. Building capital stacks to address climate and energy efficiency needs for HUD-assisted properties. Delivering training and communicating about the importance of climate resilience and energy efficiency including the cost benefits of energy efficient and climate resilient investments for a property. 	Departmental TA
ADDRESSING THE HOUSING NEEDS OF DIVERSE POPULATIONS	 Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA: To help programs effectively incorporate people with lived experience into organizational decision-making and service design in meaningful ways. Lived experience may be a current or former resident, participant, beneficiary of HUD-funded programs (e.g., persons experiencing homelessness, residents of public housing, survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, persons experiencing housing discrimination, etc.). Related to effectively meeting the needs of diverse populations in housing programs. 	McKinney- Vento TA, Departmental TA
ADDRESSING THE HOUSING NEEDS OF PERSONS EXITING JAILS AND PRISONS, RE- ENTRY COORDINATION	Providing training and TA and developing resources for housing providers (including public housing agencies, Housing Choice Voucher owners and landlords, property managers, multifamily owners and managers, participating jurisdictions and owners, HOPWA grantees, ESG grantees, and Continuums of Care), advocates and the criminal justice community to prevent homelessness for persons exiting jails and prisons.	Departmental TA, McKinney- Vento TA

	 Establishing sustainable coordination between housing providers, criminal justice, and jails and prisons to provide housing for persons exiting jails and prisons. Developing best practices for re-entry housing coordination to support people exiting jails and prisons and reducing recidivism. 	
ADDRESSING THE HOUSING NEEDS OF YOUTH	 Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA related to: Increasing the capacity of housing and homelessness systems to serve youth, including populations that are at increased risk of experiencing homelessness such as BIPOC youth, gender diverse youth, and youth with foster care or juvenile justice involvement. Developing effective service models for addressing the housing and service needs and barriers of youth. Training and increasing the capacity of Youth Action Boards to be dynamic leaders in homelessness system change, including training on Continuum of Care rules and the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Building partnerships between systems of care that work with at-risk youth. 	Youth Homelessness TA
CDBG-DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR), CDBG MITIGATION (CDBG-MIT), NATIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE COMPETITION (CDBG-NDR) AND REBUILD BY DESIGN (RBD) GRANTS	 Demonstrated experience with building and strengthening local capacity for disaster recovery in a timely manner through the following channels: Providing one on one TA with grantees to build grantees capacity throughout the grant lifecycle (assessing initial capacity, launch, program design, community engagement, program implementation, program intake, closeout). Developing resources for grantees that help reduce grantee staff administrative burden and help streamline compliance with CDBG-DR, CDBG-MIT, CDBG-NDR, and/or CDBG-RBD requirements. 	Departmental TA

	 Designing and delivering small- and large-scale training about CDBG-DR, CDBG-MIT, CDBG-NDR, and/or CDBG-RBD specific rules and requirements across funding years. Developing best practices for grantees to utilize for equitable and resilient recovery at the local level across eligible project types, federal, and local funding sources. 	
	Strengthening local capacity for community wealth-building and economic development by designing and delivering TA to:	
COMMUNITY WEALTH- BUILDING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	 Foster peer learning through creation of communities of practice and facilitating connections among community wealth-building and economic development leaders and stakeholders. Provide trainings focused on supporting HUD customers who have implemented community wealth building as part of a HUD program or grant. Provide one-on-one coaching to those HUD customers participating in the HUD community wealth building community of practice to bolster capacity, skills, and strategies for organizations. Develop standard guides, tools, playbooks and corresponding training resources for HUD customers. 	Departmental TA
COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION	 Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA: Related to increasing the capacity of HUD customers to implement HUD's CVI policy. TA may include designing and implementing interdisciplinary place-based approaches to community violence interventions, with a focus centered on community participation and community engagement. On evidence-based practices and service delivery to address persistent community violence/gun violence as well as training on how HUD customers may respond to 	Departmental TA

	 ongoing trauma and mental health services needed. To support HUD customers in creating cross-sector partnership building related to community violence intervention, community development, and community health promotion. Description of how TA will incorporate and be informed by a diverse group of people with lived experience, to include residents in communities affected by persistent violence/gun violence, returning citizens with lived CVI experience, and members of affected communities who have a criminal history involving violence/gun violence. 	
DECARBONIZATION TA	 Demonstrated experience with designing and delivering TA: Related to HUD's Climate Action Plan, including HUD's decarbonization policy To HUD customers which includes Tribes, TDHEs, or other Tribal entities, public housing authorities, or other HUD grantees that are implementing affordable housing and community development activities that reduce energy use. Experience developing resources related to tax credit financing for HUD's affordable housing and community development activities that reduce energy use, or your ability to acquire a team partner with this experience. 	Departmental TA
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS FOR THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) AND RELATED FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND AUTHORITIES	 Secretary of Interior (SOI) Qualified Professionals to assist in Section 106 Consultation, Hydrologists to determine base flood elevations of unmapped floodplains. Environmental Engineers with experience in site contamination analysis and remediation. Biologists with experience developing Biological Assessments for Endangered Species. 	

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV), HOUSING, AND HOMELESSNESS	 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Practitioners with experience applying Categorical Exclusions (CATEXs) and drafting Environmental Assessments (EAs) for HUD or other Federal agency grantee recipients. Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA: Related to increasing the capacity of housing and homelessness systems to provide survivor-focused, trauma-informed care to meet the needs of survivors of gender-based violence (e.g., domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or human trafficking) On effective service models for addressing the housing needs and barriers as well as homelessness among survivors of gender-based violence. Related to federal confidentiality requirements for victim services providers or HUD customers. To support cross-sector partnership building related to gender-based violence, housing, and homelessness. Description of how work will be informed by a diverse group of people with lived experience of the intersection of GBV, housing, and homelessness and how equity and accessibility will be incorporated into TA. 	McKinney- Vento TA, Departmental TA
LEVERAGING HEALTHCARE AND SERVICES	 Demonstrated expertise providing T/TA to housing providers working with state Medicaid agencies providing housing related supportive services and supports, and behavioral healthcare. Demonstrated expertise on Medicaid demonstrations and state plan amendments covering housing related-supports and services for individuals experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. 	McKinney- Vento TA
MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE,	Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA:	McKinney- Vento TA,

AND HOMELESSNESS	 Related to increasing the capacity of homelessness systems to meet the mental health and substance use-related needs of people experiencing homelessness. Related to effective best practice for homelessness programs to respond to mental health and substance use among people experiencing homelessness, e.g., trauma-informed care, harm reduction strategies, motivational interviewing, etc. To support cross-sector partnership building between homelessness providers and community MH/SU providers and systems. Description of how work will be informed by a diverse group of people with lived experience of the intersection of mental health, substance use, and homelessness. Include how equity and accessibility will be incorporated into TA. 	Departmental TA
NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING TRAINING ACADEMY (NFHTA)	If you are applying to provide TA for NFHTA, applicants must fully address the criteria found in the rating factors. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate: • Expertise designing and delivering innovative TA that effectively and meaningfully incorporates people with direct fair housing experience (e.g., an individual who experienced housing discrimination) into training, organizational decision-making, and service design. • Adult learning theory expertise (specifically planning, delivering, and executing TA that is relevant and responsive to individual learners' needs). • Knowledge, skills, and capacity to adeptly manage multiple, complex, evolving projects using an iterative approach. • Skill developing the ability of others (e.g., future generations of fair housing practitioners) to perform and contribute to the development of TA (by providing ongoing feedback and by providing opportunities to learn through formal and informal methods).	National Fair Housing Training Academy

	 Demonstrated record of inspiring and fostering team commitment, spirit, pride, and trust beyond their firm. Record of being solution oriented and facilitating cooperation and motivation amongst team members to accomplish group goals. Advanced understanding of design thinking, to include customer journey mapping, facilitation, and visual illustration. 	
PLACE-BASED INITIATIVES	Demonstrated experience, as part of place-based initiatives that focus on comprehensive community-led revitalization, designing and delivering TA to: • Build the capacity of HUD customers, • Develop standard tools and trainings for topics such as needs assessments, planning, collective impact, fiscal mapping, investment strategies, and data and evaluation frameworks, and • Develop platforms or communities of practice for HUD customers in different localities to facilitate sharing of best practices, engage in peer learning, and collectively tackle problems.	Departmental TA
THRIVING COMMUNITIES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	 Applicants must clearly identify and detail their experience in one or more of the following focus areas: Identifying and using vacant, abandoned, or underutilized land located on or near transportation projects that is suitable for housing development to create location-efficient housing. Preserving affordable housing and protecting residents and businesses from displacement as new infrastructure is deployed. Implementing regulatory and procedural reforms to reduce barriers to location-efficient housing that impede housing production and increase development costs. Improving coordination both among public entities and between public entities and 	FY23 Departmental TA

	state recipients of infrastructure funding; transit authorities and other quasi-public entities; and the private sector in ways that support a holistic and regional approach to housing and transportation.	
TRIBAL HOMELESSNESS	 Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA related to increasing the capacity of homelessness systems to provide effective and culturally appropriate services to address homelessness in tribal communities. Demonstrated experience designing and delivering TA on effective service models for addressing homelessness in tribal communities in a culturally appropriate manner. Demonstrated capacity to provide TA to tribes and TDHEs related to the CoC registration process in a culturally appropriate manner. Demonstrated knowledge of program requirements, regulations, and restrictions of CPD and ONAP programs to provide TA to tribes receiving multiple funding streams. 	McKinney- Vento TA, Departmental TA
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA)	 Demonstrated deep knowledge in VAWA's housing provisions and related HUD implementing regulations, sub-regulatory authorities and guidance, and forms; Demonstrated expertise in providing training and technical assistance ("T/TA") on implementing VAWA's housing provisions to HUD customers of one or more covered housing programs, including public housing agencies, Housing Choice Voucher owners and landlords, property managers, multifamily owners and managers, participating jurisdictions and owners, HOPWA grantees, ESG grantees, and Continuums of Care; Demonstrated expertise providing T/TA to HUD customers of covered housing programs on developing and implementing 	Departmental TA

- VAWA emergency transfer plans and effectuating VAWA emergency transfers;
- Demonstrated expertise in providing T/TA and developing resources for applicants, tenants, and program participants of HUD covered housing programs on survivors' housing rights under VAWA, Fair Housing Act, and related federal, state, and local laws;
- Demonstrated expertise in providing T/TA
 on the implementation of VAWA's housing
 provisions in HUD covered housing
 programs to state and local victim service
 providers, including culturally specific
 victim service providers;
- Demonstrated a commitment to traumainformed principles and supporting survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking ("survivors") and show how those principles will be incorporated in the provision of T/TA.