



Technical Assistance Opportunity  
Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Local Competition  
Funding Year 2020  
Released February 3, 2020

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## A. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is expected to publish the Funding Year 2020 Notice of Funding Availability for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (the CoC Program NOFA) in mid-2020.

The CoC Program is the single largest source of funding in the Louisiana Balance of State Continuum of Care (LA BOSCO) for projects providing housing and services to people experiencing homelessness. Under the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA, the LA BOSCO expects to receive more than \$20 million, including approximately \$1.5 million for new projects (including expansions of existing projects).

The LA BOSCO has released this Technical Assistance Opportunity (TAO) to assist organizations in creating high quality project applications for the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA, including organizations that have never applied or received CoC Program funding.

Organizations are not required to participate in this TAO to submit project applications to the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA. However, this TAO is designed to help applicants to both design high-functioning projects and avoid many of the pitfalls that have prevented applications in previous years from receiving funding.

**The LA BOSCO strongly encourages any organization that is considering applying for CoC Program funding to receive technical assistance through this TAO.**

Note: the contents of this TAO and the technical assistance to be provided under this TAO are based on informed projections made by CoC staff. The LA BOSCO reserves the right to alter this TAO at any time. The LA BOSCO does not guarantee that this TAO will wholly match the final released versions of either the LA BOSCO's local competition or the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA.

## B. Eligibility for Assistance

Non-profit organizations, local governments, and instrumentalities of local government are eligible to receive technical assistance through this TAO.

The LA BOSCO welcomes and encourages entities that have not previously received CoC Program funds to request assistance.

Applicants can only request technical assistance for projects that operate in the LA BOSCO's geography. The following parishes are included in that geography. For the purposes of the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA, those parishes are divided into five Regions.

Baton Rouge Region	Houma Region	Lake Charles Region	Natchitoches/Sabine Region	Plaquemines/St. Bernard Region
Ascension	Assumption	Allen	Natchitoches	Plaquemines
East Baton Rouge	Lafourche	Beauregard	Sabine	St. Bernard
East Feliciana	St. Charles	Calcasieu		
Iberville	St. James	Cameron		
Point Coupee	St. John	Jefferson Davis		
West Baton Rouge	Terrebonne			
West Feliciana				

## C. Application Process

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### Overview and Process

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The following process governs how organizations may submit requests for technical assistance under this TAO.

- (1) Requests for technical assistance must be submitted on agency letterhead and signed by a staff person with signature authority. Requests must include all of the following information:
  - a. Agency name
  - b. Whether the agency is a non-profit organization, local government, or instrumentality of local government
  - c. Which Region(s) the agency's proposed CoC Program project will operate in
  - d. A brief description of the agency's proposed CoC Program project, including:
    - i. How much funding it will request
    - ii. How many people (participants) it will serve
    - iii. What target population(s) it will serve (e.g. chronically homeless, veterans, youth, people fleeing domestic violence)
    - iv. The project's type:
      1. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), which is scattered site rental assistance and case management for up to 24 months (average of 6 months)
      2. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), which is single site or scattered site rental assistance and case management for an unlimited duration for people experiencing chronic homelessness
      3. Transitional Housing – Rapid Re-Housing Joint Component (TH-RRH), which combines either single site or scattered site transitional housing and RRH
        - a. *Note:* this project type is particularly challenging to operate and is often not cost effective outside of certain target populations (e.g. youth, people fleeing domestic violence); the CoC discourages first time applicants from applying for TH-RRH funding
    - v. Whether the project is single site or scattered site
- (2) Requests are due to the LA BOSCOG by 4 PM on February 28, 2020. Any requests received after that time will be automatically rejected.
- (3) Requests must be submitted either:
  - a. Electronically as a PDF to Gordon Levine, Continuum of Care Manager, at [glevine@lhc.la.gov](mailto:glevine@lhc.la.gov), or
  - b. By postal mail to the following address:

Continuum of Care Manager  
1690 N. Boulevard 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

## D. Timelines

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CoC staff will provide technical assistance under this TAO to all eligible applicants who submit a request that meets all of the above criteria within the timeframe specified.

CoC staff will continue to provide technical assistance under this TAO to each eligible applicant until the applicant discontinues the technical assistance, the CoC staff discontinues the technical assistance, or the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA is released.

## E. Project Information

### I. Project Eligibility

Projects eligible to receive technical assistance under this TAO can be either:

- (1) *Entirely new projects*, i.e. funding for activities that were not funded by the CoC Program in FY 2019; or,
- (2) *Expansion projects*, i.e. funding to expand activities that were funded by the CoC Program in FY 2019.

The following funding minimums are projected to exist:

- (1) *Entirely new projects* must apply for, at minimum, \$150,000 of CoC Program funds;
- (2) *Expansion projects* must apply for, at minimum, \$25,000 of CoC Program funds.

### II. Funding Types

The following funding pools are projected to be available in the LA BOSCO local competition.

#### a. General Funding

The LA BOSCO estimates approximately \$1,000,000 will be available to new projects in General Funding. This funding represents the project amount of the FY 2020 CoC Program NOFA's CoC Bonus. The amount available in General Funding may decrease if non-competitive funding is allocated to specific projects. The amount available in General Funding may decrease if one or more existing projects reallocate some or all of their funding.

General Funding is available to all new project applications EXCEPT from projects that propose to serve exclusively people fleeing domestic violence.

General Funding is allocated proportionally to each LA BOSCO Region based on the number of people experiencing homelessness in each Region.<sup>1</sup> Each Region was allocated, at minimum, \$150,000.

LA BOSCO Region	PIT Count Total <sup>2</sup>	Region PIT % of CoC PIT	Projected Allocation
Baton Rouge	353	68.68%	377,740.00
Houma	n/a	n/a	150,000.00
Lake Charles	161	31.32%	172,260.00
Natchitoches/ Sabine	n/a	n/a	150,000.00
Plaquemines/ St. Bernard	n/a	n/a	150,000.00
Total	514	100.00%	1,000,000.00

<sup>1</sup> These projections are based on the January 2018 Point in Time (PIT) Count; the actual amounts will be released as part of the LA BOSCO local competition's Request for Proposals (RFP) and will be based on the most recently completed PIT data.

<sup>2</sup> The Houma, Natchitoches/Sabine, and Plaquemines/St. Bernard Regions are projected to be allocated the minimum amount of \$150,000; their PIT Counts were therefore excluded from this table. For more information about those Regions' PIT Counts, please refer to <https://laboscoc.org/fy-2018-pit-count>.

The following project types can receive General Funding:

- (1) Rapid Re-housing (RRH);
- (2) Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-housing (TH-RRH);
- (3) Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).

New projects may apply for funding in excess of the amount available in their regional allocation. These projects will only be funded if there is funding not claimed in a different Region; however, there has historically been funding not claimed by one or more Regions.

#### b. Domestic Violence Bonus Funding

The LA BOSCOG estimates approximately \$470,000 will be available in Domestic Violence Bonus (“DV Bonus”) Funding.

DV Bonus Funding is available ONLY to projects that propose to serve exclusively people who are fleeing domestic violence, which includes dating violence, stalking, and human trafficking, including sex trafficking.

The following project types can apply for DV Bonus Funding:

- (1) Rapid Re-housing (RRH);
- (2) Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-housing (TH-RRH).

All DV Bonus Funding will be granted directly to the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (LCADV), which will implement its own subrecipient project selection process in partnership with the LA BOSCOG for the local competition.

### III. Eligible Costs and Activities

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Eligible costs and activities are defined in 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63.

### IV. Matching Funds

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Projects will be required to provide matching funds (“match”) equal to or greater than 25% of their total CoC Program funding award (excluding funds requested in the Leasing budget category). Match may be either cash or in-kind. Eligible sources of match are defined in 24 CFR 578.73.

Projects will be required to provide match for the grant as a whole; they are not required to identify match by budget category.

### V. Administrative Funds

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Projects may use up to ten percent (10%) of their total CoC Program funding award for administrative costs. Eligible administrative costs are defined in 24 CFR 578.59.

### VI. Funding Awards

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All funding awards made during the CoC Program Local Competition are conditional on funds being made available to the LA BOSCOG and on funds being awarded to the projects in question by HUD.

The CoC projects that funding will become available to all recipients no later than July 2021.

## F. Technical Assistance

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CoC staff will provide technical assistance including but not limited to:

- Education about what the CoC Program can and cannot fund
- Data about homelessness in the LA BOSCO, including existing resources and resource gaps
- Information about best practices in RRH, PSH, and TH-RRH project design and implementation
- Guidance on how to develop a high-scoring project for the CoC Program Competition
- Feedback in project design, including cost efficiency, supportive services offerings, projected outcomes, staffing patterns, outreach strategies, etc.
- Assistance in developing project narratives that will likely be required for the CoC Program Competition, including review and editing

CoC staff can provide technical assistance on-site, by webinar, over the phone, and/or by email depending on each applicant's needs.

## VII. Questions

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Questions can be submitted to Gordon Levine, Continuum of Care Manager, at [glevine@lhc.la.gov](mailto:glevine@lhc.la.gov).