

Western PA CoC FY2026 CoC Renewal Scoring Webinar

April 30th, 2026

Presented by: Framework Strategies

For the Western PA Continuum of Care/Housing Coalition of
Western PA, under contract with the PA Dept of Community &
Economic Development



Webinar Agenda

- What's New for 2026
- Why Renewal Scoring?
- Renewal Scoring Criteria
 - Brief overview of all criteria
- Renewal Scoring Process
 - Process
 - Info for DV providers, new projects, consolidations
 - Timeline
 - Appeals
- Questions

Info for New Projects

- **New Projects:** If you are operating a new project in which the HUD contract start date was *after* January 1st, 2025, you are still be asked to submit a renewal summary form survey. However, these projects will not be scored, as only projects with one full year of operations (1/1/25-12/31/25) can be competitively scored.
- **However, this webinar will provide helpful information for your reference.**

Important Notes for SSO-CE, HMIS, and Planning Grants

- SSO-CE and HMIS grants will be evaluated on grant management (spending and APR submission). SSO-CE and HMIS grantees will also need to submit renewal evaluation information.
- Planning grant will not need to submit renewal evaluation information.

What's New for 2026

CoC NOFO Updates

FY 2026 Continuum of Care Competition and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grants NOFO



Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

[Assistance Listings](#): 14.267 -- Continuum of Care Program

Last Updated: April 21, 2026

[View version history on Grants.gov](#) 

Description

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to:

- promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;
- provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, Indian Tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities [as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)], and local governments to quickly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness, persons experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth experiencing homelessness while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness;
- promote access to, and effective utilization of, mainstream programs and programs funded with State or local resources; and
- optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing

Forecasted

Estimated Post Date:

May 29, 2026

Estimated Application Due Date:

August 26, 2026

Estimated Due Date Description:

Not available

Estimated Award Date:

December 1, 2026

Estimated Project Start Date:





January 1, 2027

Fiscal Year:

2026

NOFO Updates

NOFO Updates

2025 CoC NOFO(s) – DID NOT MOVE FORWARD	Guesses about 2026 CoC NOFO
Permanent Housing limited to 30% of a CoC’s Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)	<p>↑ Transitional Housing</p> <p>↓ Permanent Housing</p>
Tier 1 (safe) is limited to 30% of a CoC’s Annual Renewal Demand (in contrast to 90% in 2024)	Tier 1 must be no less than 60% ARD
Housing First eliminated	Unknown, but HUD will not require Housing First
Workforce requirements required	
Service participation required	
Participation in SAVE	
Limitations on clients that can be served	

Important Reminder

- Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) is likely the next step before NOFO is released.
- If you wish to make changes to your grant(s) please notify the CoC ASAP (westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org).
 - We do not yet know if we will be able to consolidate projects this year, or make other changes.

NOTE: We are unsure if there will be new project funding available for expansions or stand-alone new projects. If there are funds available, the CoC will release an RFP.

What's New (or new-ish) for 2026

Renewal Scoring Criteria Updates



New for 2026

- Renewal scoring in 2026 is more comprehensive than it was in 2025, but still less comprehensive than in 2024.
- Renewal scoring evaluation for 2026 includes:
 - Performance and Data Quality
 - Grant Management/Monitoring
 - CoC Participation and Priorities
- The Renewal Summary Form Survey will be shorter than usual, but longer than it was in 2025.

New in 2026

There will be two rounds of renewal project scoring released:

- 1) Preliminary Score – upon the conclusion of the scoring of the 2026 criteria
- 2) Final Score – upon the release of the 2026 CoC NOFO we will determine if any changes to scoring are needed to be in alignment with HUD expectations.



New in 2026

- **YHDP Funded Projects:**
 - We will be evaluating/scoring YHDP-funded projects this year to set baseline thresholds specific to YHDP projects in future years.
 - YHDP projects were previously not required to be competitively ranked. However, the CoC anticipates that HUD will not require CoCs to competitively rank YHDP projects.
 - If this requirement changes, the Funding Committee will determine the mechanism to fairly incorporate YHDP projects into the ranking process.

New in 2026

- **Coordinated Entry Data**
 - Coordinated Entry participation has not been previously scored, but we will be scoring participation in 2026:
 - Participation in Case Conferencing/By Name List calls
 - 100% Project Vacancies are Reported to and Filled Through CE (For Victim Service Providers this will be self-report)
 - Record Referral Outcomes for All HMIS Referrals (Excluding Victim Service Providers and SSOs)

In future years, the CoC also plans to evaluate grantees on not rejecting/screening participants out for non-eligible reasons (once a policy is established related to this).

New in 2026

- DV-Dedicated Projects – Quarterly Monitoring
 - Beginning in April 2025, DV-dedicated projects will be evaluated on participating in quarterly monitoring process (submitting APR data from comparable database on time).
 - This was not scored in 2025, but will be scored in 2026 based on participation during Q2, Q3, and Q4.

Why Renewal Scoring?

Why does the CoC evaluate grantees annually as part of the CoC NOFO Competition process?



Why Score & Rank Projects?

- **HUD Requirement. CoCs are charged with:**
 - Using objective criteria to review and rank projects
 - Reviewing performance of projects and implementing a standard process for reallocating funding from lower performing projects to create new high performing projects
 - Funding projects that are effectively serving people experiencing homelessness and that help improve the overall function of the system
 - Funding projects that meet needs within the system

Why Score & Rank Projects?

- **The CoC Strives to Make Data-Informed Funding Decisions**
 - Is the project still meeting a need within the CoC?
 - Is the project effectively serving participants?
 - Each project's individual performance impacts the CoC's overall System Performance Measures, which impact the overall amount of funding the CoC receives from HUD
 - Is the project effectively using their funds?
 - Are project staff fully participating as members of the CoC?

How does
the CoC
decide what
criteria to
use to score
projects?



Process for deciding renewal scoring criteria

- HUD requires CoCs to include certain criteria as part of their scoring/ranking process, including:
 - Performance-related criteria
 - Examples: exits to permanent housing, increases in income, returns to homelessness
 - Criteria for evaluating victim service providers
 - Method for evaluating DV providers using data generated from a comparable database.
- HUD requires that performance-based criteria be at least 20% of total points, and objective criteria be at least 33% of total points

Process for deciding renewal scoring criteria

- Funding Committee is made up of non-conflicted representatives approved by the Governing Board.
 - Non-conflicted = their organization/program does not receive CoC funding
- Funding Committee reviews and updates the scoring criteria.
- Funding Committee reviews project performance from the previous year to set scoring thresholds for each criteria
 - May decide to raise or lower point thresholds based on previous years performance
- Funding Committee may also add new criteria (to respond to HUD requirements or NOFO requirements or to reflect the work the CoC is doing).
- All Funding Committee recommendations are forwarded to the non-conflicted Governing Board for review/approval.

Renewal Scoring Criteria

2026 Scoring Criteria Areas:

- **Performance**
 - 43.5 points for RRH/TH-RRH/PSH/TH
 - 41.5 for SSO
- **Grant Management/Monitoring**= 15 points (12 for SSO)
- **HUD/CoC Priorities** = 2 points***
- **CoC Participation**= 10 points

Total Points:

- RRH/TH-RRH/PSH/TH= 71.5 points
- SSO = 66 points
- Points will be converted to a 100% scale.

Time Period Used for All Data:

- January 1, 2025- December 31, 2025

***Scoring HUD priorities

- The 2025 CoC NOFOs included an expectation from HUD that CoCs would score projects based on service participation requirements.
- The Funding Committee will be incorporating scoring criteria to reflect HUD's directive/language upon the release of the NOFO.

Performance

43.5 points for RRH/TH-RRH/PSH/TH
41.5 for SSO

Why does the CoC score projects based on performance criteria?

- HUD wants CoC's to use objective criteria to score and rank projects, including factors related to improving system performance (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, length of time homeless, increasing income)
- CoC's must show that they actively review performance of existing CoC Program-funded projects and have a standard process for reallocating funding from lower performing projects to create new high performing projects.
- HUD measures whether CoCs are performing well as an overall system through HUD's CoC System Performance Measures. **Individual project performance directly contributes to the overall system performance.**
- ***The CoC's System Performance Measures directly impact the amount of funding the CoC receives.***

What are the HUD System Performance Measures (SPM)?

Length of Time Homeless: The length of time individuals and families experience homelessness.

Returns to Homelessness: The extent to which individuals and families who leave homelessness experience additional episodes of homelessness.

Number of homeless persons: Overall reduction in the number of homeless individuals and families. This includes reducing homelessness for subpopulations (e.g. veterans, families, chronically homeless)

Employment and income growth for homeless individuals and families: Includes earned income, non-employment cash income, and total income. Only CoC-funded projects contribute to this measure.

First Time Homelessness: Success at reducing the number of individuals and families who become homeless for the first time

Permanent Housing Placement/Retention: Successful housing placement to or retention in a permanent housing destination

Renewal Scoring Criteria: Performance

- **Housing Stability – 10 points (8 points for TH & SSO)**
 - Exits to Permanent Housing (RRH/TH/TH-RRH/SSO)
 - Exits to Permanent Housing/Retention in Permanent Housing (PSH)
- **Returns to Homelessness – 2 points**
 - % of returns to homelessness within 6 months of exit to permanent housing
 - Low point value due to low HMIS participation of shelters in the CoC
 - N/A for DV providers and SSO
- **DV-Dedicated Projects Quarterly Monitoring – 2 points**
 - Submitting data for quarterly monitoring
 - Began evaluating in Q2 of 2025
- **Length of Stay/Average– 1 point**
 - **TH and SSO Only**
 - Avg length of stay for leavers < 9 months (1 point) or 12 months (0.5 points)
- **Length of Stay/Less than 12 months – 1 point**
 - **TH and SSO Only**
 - % of participants whose length of stay is 12 months or less

Renewal Scoring Criteria: Performance

- Length of Time between Project Start Date and Housing Move in Date (Average Days) – Not scored in 2026
 - Will evaluate outcomes but this will not be scored.
 - Target = 30 days or less
 - RRH, TH-RRH, and PSH Only
- Income Growth/Increase in TOTAL Income – 7 points
 - % of all adult participants who increased income from any source from entry to exit/annual assessment (leavers and stayers)
- Employment Income Growth – 1 point
 - % of adults who increased employment income
- Participants with any income - 3 points
 - % of adult participants with 1+ source of income at exit/annual assessment

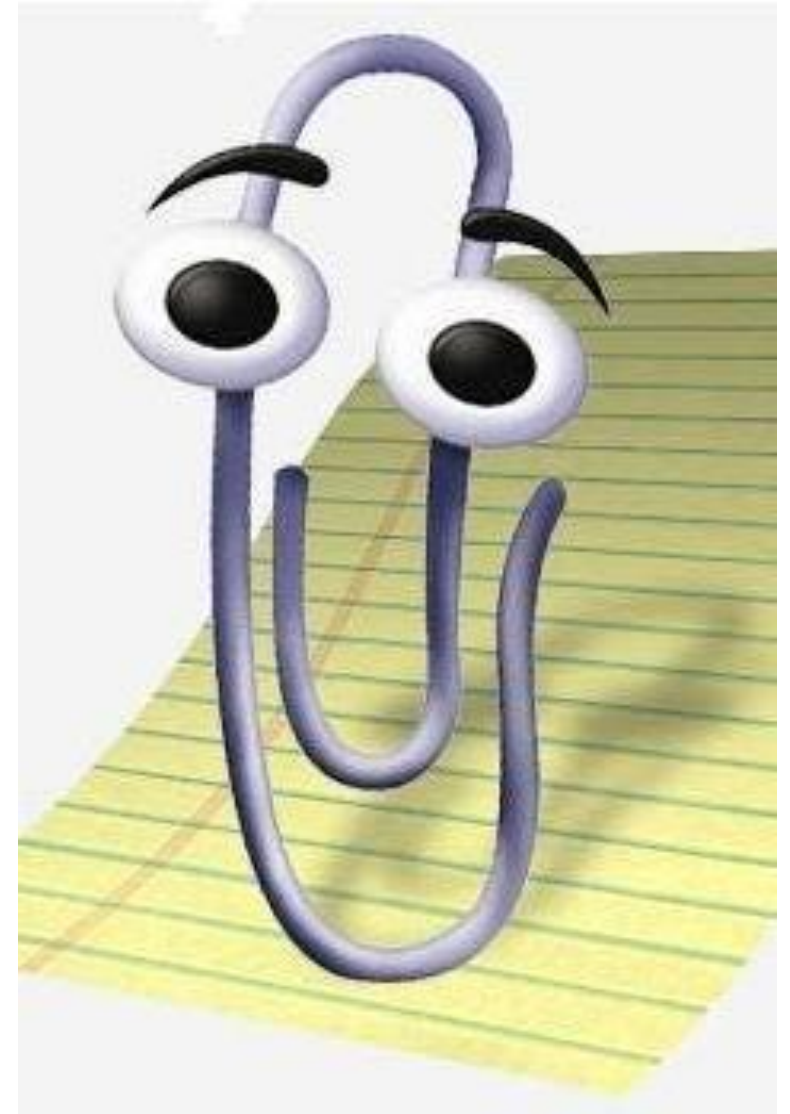
Renewal Scoring Criteria: Performance

- Participants Connected to Non-Cash/Mainstream Benefits – 5 points
 - % of adult participants with 1+ source of non-cash/mainstream benefits at exit/annual assessment
- Participants Connected to Health Insurance – 4 points
 - % of ALL participants with 1+ source of health insurance at exit/annual assessment (includes children)
- High Quality Data Entry – 7.5 points
 - This includes Name, DOB, Race/Ethnicity, Gender, Destination, and Income/Sources at Entry/Annual/Exit
 - Note: Grantees will not be penalized for “Clients Don’t Know/Clients Refused” related to Personally Identifiable Information for clients fleeing DV who do not want to disclose this information due to confidentiality concerns
- Timeliness of HMIS Data Entry – 4 points
 - Looks at timeliness of project entry record and exit record input (within 10 days)
 - 2 points for timely entries; 2 points for timely exits

Renewal Scoring Criteria: Performance

Helpful Tip:

We recommend reviewing your monitoring report from the CoC every quarter to review performance outcomes and data quality and identify areas for improvement.



Grant Management/ Monitoring

15 points
(12 for SSO)

Renewal Scoring Criteria: Monitoring

- **Project Participant Eligibility – 2 points**
 - % of heads of households entering the project from 1/1/25-12/31/25 whose prior living situation was literally homeless or fleeing DV
 - If you had folks who entered your program who were not literally homeless or fleeing DV, will be able to provide a note in the Renewal Summary Form survey (with client ID number). For example – households who transferred from one PSH to another PSH
- **Unit Utilization Rate – 3 points**
 - Average utilization rate over 4 points in time
 - For projects under 10 units, will use a 3-year average if the project is under 80% threshold.
- **Funds Expended – 8 points**
 - % of grant funds expended (based on your project's most recently completed grant cycle)
 - Supplemental info requested for projects spending less than 90%
- **Timely APR Submission – 2 points**
 - Submitted in Sage within 90 days of grant cycle end

HUD/CoC Priorities

2 points

Renewal Scoring Criteria: HUD Priorities

- Lived Experience on Board – 2 points
 - Organization either has a person with lived experience of homelessness on board or equivalent policy-making entity

OR

- Organization shows documentation that HUD has approved an alternate plan for involving individuals with lived experience in decision-making

This is a HUD requirement per the CoC Interim Rule.

CoC Participation

13 points (PSH/RRH/TH-RRH/TH)

12.5 points (SSO)

Renewal Scoring Criteria: CoC Participation

- CoC Meeting Attendance – 2 points
 - Attendance at 2 out of 3 in-person CoC meetings – 2 points
 - Attendance at 1 out of 3 – 1 point
- RHAB Meetings – 2 points
 - Attendance at 50% of all RHAB meetings (SW RHAB or Northwest Housing Collaborative) in 2025
 - Projects serving both RHABs can earn 4 total points, but do not also earn points for LHOT attendance (below)
- County LHOT or housing coalition meetings – 2 points
 - Attendance at 75% of all county LHOT/housing coalition meetings
 - Will be asked to submit letter from LHOT chair
- CoC Training Events – 6 points
 - Fair Housing/Landlord Tenant Law, Mainstream Benefits, Written Standards training, Best practices in Housing Retention
- Coordinated Entry Participation – 2 points
 - Participation in BNL calls; enrollments referred from CE; Outcomes in HMIS



- **Late Submission (Penalty)** if required CoC Renewal Scoring Documents are submitted after deadline (unless provided an extension due to extenuating circumstances)
- If a grantee needs to request a submission extension due to extenuating circumstances, this must be requested via email (to CoC email address) at least 2 business days in advance of deadline. Extensions will be reviewed and approved by the Funding Committee Chair. **No extensions will be provided for submissions greater than 5 days after the stated deadline.** Grantees are strongly encouraged to work ahead of the deadline to avoid the need to request an extension.

Scoring Calculations

Scoring calculations are available in the 2026 Renewal Scoring Criteria document, if you want to see how any of the criteria are calculated (e.g. which APR table, which data points, etc.). Example:

10	<p>CONNECTING PARTICIPANTS TO MAINSTREAM BENEFITS</p> <p>Percent of adult participants with 1+ source of Non-Cash benefits (SNAP, WIC, TANF, others, etc.)</p>	<p>APR Q20b: Number of Non-Cash Benefit Sources; APR Q18: Client Cash Income Category - Earned/Other Income Category - by Entry and Annual Assessment/Exit Status</p> <p><u>Numerator:</u> (Q20b Benefit at Latest Annual Assessment for Stayers-1 + Source(s)) + (Q20b Benefit at Exit for Leavers-1+ Source(s))</p> <p><u>Denominator:</u> (Q20b Benefit at Latest Annual Assessment for Stayers-Total) + (Q20b Benefit at Exit for Leavers-Total) – (Q18 Number of Stayers-Number of adult stayers not yet required to have an annual assessment) – (Q20b Benefit at Latest Annual Assessment for Stayers-Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused) – (Q20b Benefit at Exit for Leavers-Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused)</p>
----	--	--

Renewal Scoring Process

Process for Submitting Required Information

Renewal summary form submitted via Alchemer

- Grantees will be asked to provide some data points from HMIS/comparable database records.
- DV providers will be required to submit a copy of their APR.
- Grantees will upload LHOT chair letter.
- If grantee spent less than 90% of grant funds during last grant cycle, you will be asked to submit supplemental spending information.

CoC agencies will have a limited time to submit this data.

- All agencies, particularly those with multiple projects, are encouraged to begin as soon as the survey tool is released to ensure that the submission deadline is met.

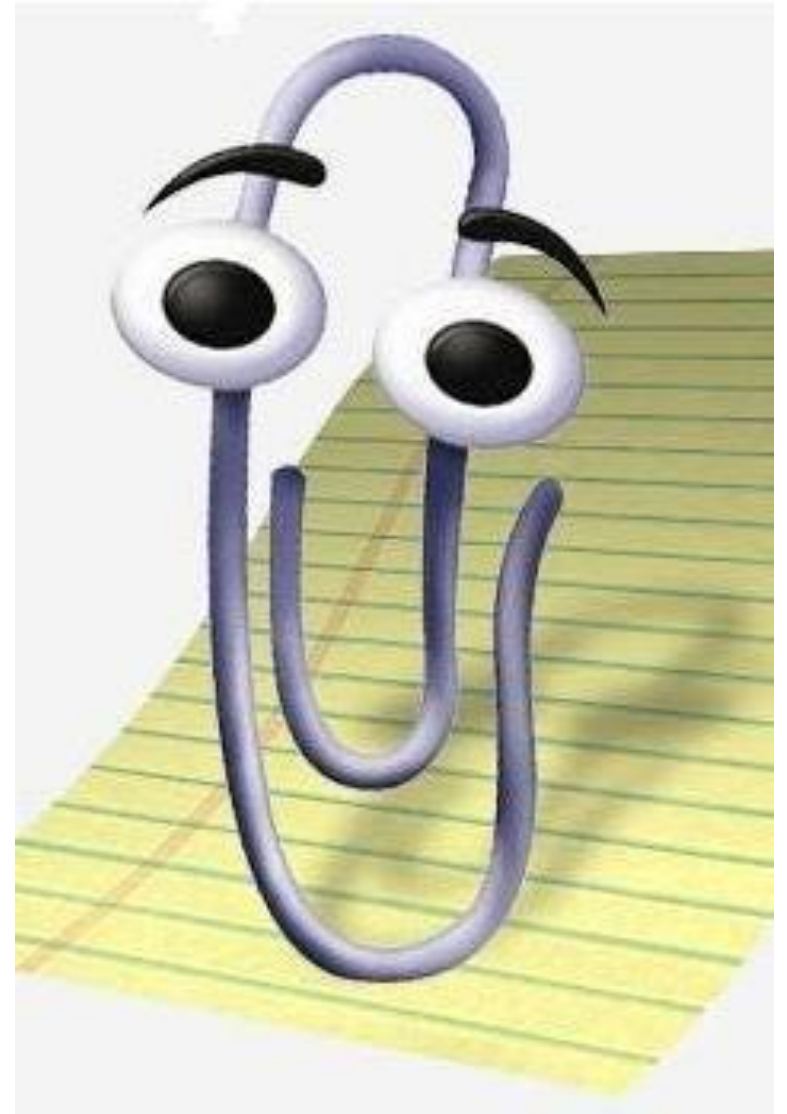
Important Info Regarding Consolidations

- If you requested to consolidate grants in the FY2024 Competition (or earlier competitions) **you will be submitting ONE renewal summary form for all consolidated grants.**
- If questions are asking for data, please provide COMBINED data for all projects within the consolidation (e.g., if project A served 10 people from 01/01/25-12/31/25 and project B served 9 people from 01/01/25-12/31/25, then the consolidated project served 19 people).
 - *You can run a combined APR in HMIS to review data for consolidated projects together*
- When we review spending and APR submission info in Sage, we will be reviewing this for ALL projects within the consolidation.

Process for Submitting Required Information

Helpful Tip:

We recommend completing survey on paper and gathering all your required documents first. Then sit down and complete the online survey in one sitting. We will provide a hard copy of online survey with instruction materials.



Appeals

- Preliminary renewal scoring results will be circulated to all CoC-funded grantees.
 - If an error on the Renewal Scoring Sheet is identified, Framework will work to resolve that error directly or with the Funding Committee as needed.
- If a grantee is not satisfied with the outcome of an issue raised, or if grantee has an extenuating circumstance to bring to the Funding Committee, the grantee may opt to submit an appeal.
- Appeals will be submitted via Alchemer. Grantees should provide as much detail and documentation as possible to support their appeal.
- All appeals will be discussed, deliberated and decided by the Funding Committee.

Appeals

- **NOTE:** Grantees were asked to review their APRs during the data clean-up period to ensure accuracy. Grantees were instructed to submit HMIS tickets for any data issues/questions. If grantees found data issues that they were not able to resolve with the HMIS team, they were instructed to notify Framework by 4/27/26.
- *Framework staff is proceeding with the assumption that all APR data from HMIS is accurate unless we were notified of issues.*

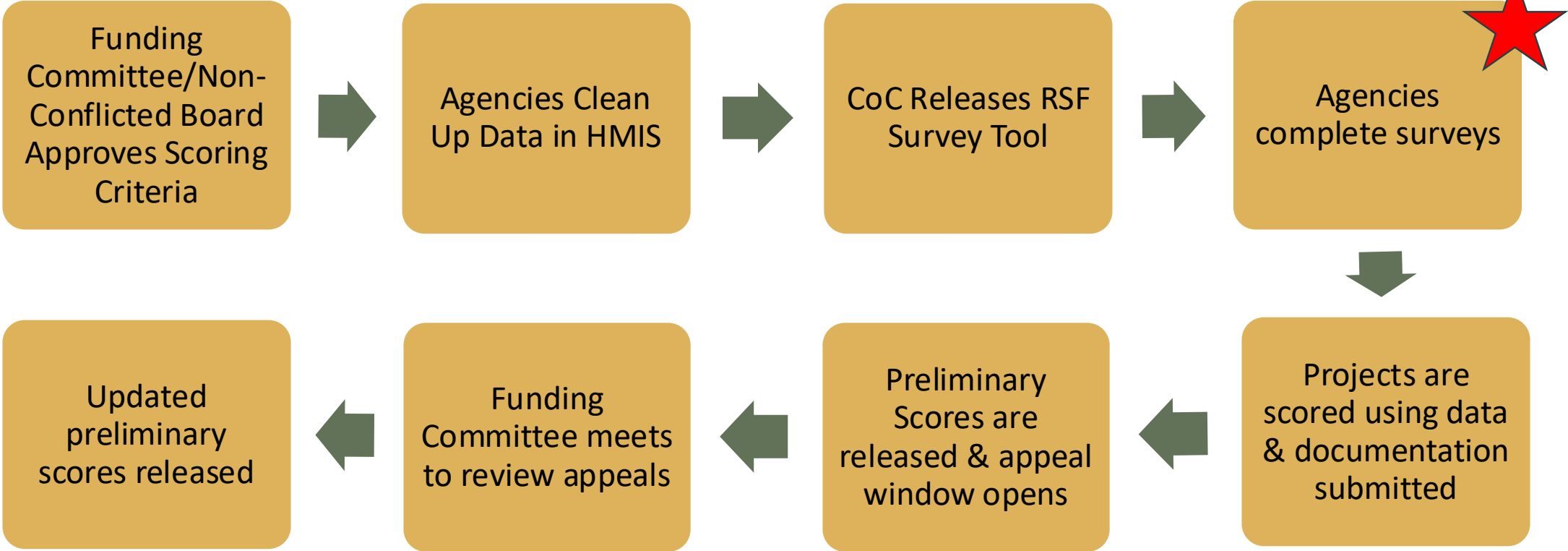
Appeals

- Examples of appeals with good documentation
 - Project A submitted an appeal related to Housing Stability. Two participants had negative exits to non-permanent housing destinations. The agency provided client ID numbers and provided details about extenuating circumstances.
 - Project B submitted an appeal related to Data Quality – Income and Sources at Annual. There was one household who was showing up as not having an annual assessment completed. The agency worked with DCED during the data clean up period to sort this out, because on the agency's end it did look like an annual assessment was done on time. The agency looped in Framework related to this issue. Agency provided the HMIS ticket # as documentation and provided details about the correspondence with DCED and Framework to sort out the issue.

Appeals

- Examples of appeals with weak or no documentation
 - General complaints about criteria but no specific documentation of why your project should be granted an appeal. Example: “It is hard to increase income for our clients.”
 - “We are a small program and are penalized more harshly on this criteria”, but no documentation related to the specific clients this applies to.
 - “We updated the data (after the data clean-up period).”

Summary of 2026 Scoring Process



Upon release of the NOFO, additional criteria may be added and/or the weighting of criteria may be adjusted, followed by the final scores released

Process for Submitting Required Information

REMINDER:

Grantees will have a chance to provide feedback on the renewal scoring criteria once final scores are released.

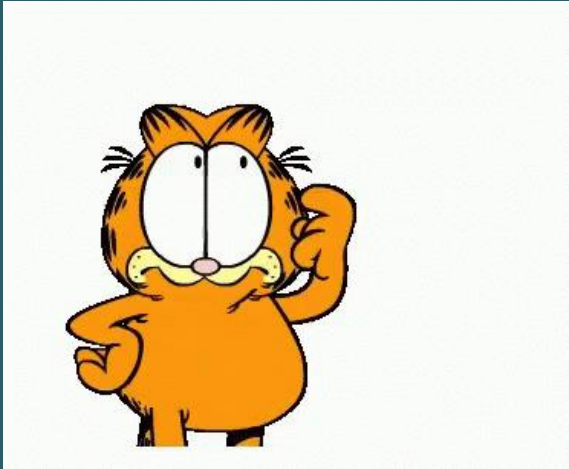
Timeline

Timeline	Activity
4/10/26-4/27/26	Data clean up window
4/30/26	Kick-Off Webinar – TODAY!
4/20/26- 5/8/26	CoC renewal project submission of relevant data and materials to CoC via Alchemer
4/28/26- 5/11/26	HMIS Team pulling APR data
5/11/26– 5/22/26	Framework review of data submitted, manually enter supplemental data, and calculation of outcomes and scoring
5/25/26	CoC release of preliminary outcomes/scoring for CoC renewal projects
5/25/26-5/29/26	Appeals window for CoC renewal projects
6/1/26-6/9/26	Review and disposition of scoring appeals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• West Funding Committee meeting scheduled on 6/9*
Following release of NOFO	CoC release of final outcomes and scoring for renewal projects

Thank you for
all the work
that you do!

- To help us ensure a smooth CoC scoring process please:
 - Promptly and carefully read all emails from the CoC
 - Follow instructions
 - Ask questions well in advance of deadlines
 - Meet all deadlines
- If you have questions, send them to westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org.
- You can also call DMA at 215-576-1558 and leave a message and someone from the team will call you back.
- Please do NOT wait until the last minute to review materials, submit surveys and/or resolve problems/questions.

Questions?



Contact Info

Framework Strategies, Consultant for the Western PA CoC/ Housing Coalition of Western PA

- westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org
- 215-576-1558 (leave a message and someone will get back to you)

All NOFO materials are available on the CoC's website - <https://pennsylvaniacoc.org/western-pa-coc-fy26-coc-nofo-competition>