

Eastern PA Continuum of Care (CoC)

FY2026 Request for Proposals

New project RFP – Permanent Supportive Housing

Preliminary Application due by 5pm on Friday, July 31st

The Eastern PA CoC submits an annual application to HUD to secure federal funding for new and existing projects that work to reduce and end homelessness throughout the CoC's 33-county geographic area. The Eastern PA CoC is soliciting Preliminary Applications from agencies interested in applying for new Permanent Supportive Housing projects to be submitted as part of the FY2026 Continuum of Care (CoC) Application.

All housing and services funded through this RFP must be located in the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC's geographical area which includes the following counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Lehigh, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Somerset, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, Wyoming.

Note: While all eligible organizations can opt to apply in response to this RFP, strong projects submitted to exclusively serve Lehigh and/or Northampton counties will be prioritized.

Funding Available

The Eastern PA CoC has reallocated funding from two Permanent Supportive Housing projects in the Lehigh Valley RHAB, totaling **\$853,743**, which is the amount available through this RFP.

Additional Information to review prior to submitting a Preliminary Application

Please review the information provided below regarding eligible applicants, eligible participants, new project types, eligible activities, expectations and requirements of the project recipient, and selection/ scoring criteria to be used in the selection of new project applicants.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible project applicants for the CoC Program Competition are found at 24 CFR 578.15 and include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, and instrumentalities of state and local governments. Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. Faith-based organizations may apply on the same basis as any other organization.

Ineligible Applicants: Please note the following: (1) HUD does not award grants to individuals, and (2) for-profit entities are ineligible to apply for grants and are prohibited from being subrecipients of CoC Program grant funds. HUD will not evaluate applications from ineligible applicants. As such, the CoC will not accept proposals from individuals or for-profit entities given that a project application to HUD from an individual or a for-profit entity would be deemed ineligible.

Eligible participants - Who is eligible for homeless assistance under the CoC?

Project participants are currently limited to the categories 1 and 4 of the [HUD Homeless Definition](#).

- Category 1 includes individuals and families experiencing literal homeless in an emergency shelter or in a location not appropriate for sleeping (e.g. street, tent, car, etc.).
- Category 4 includes persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Under certain circumstances, Category 4 may also include persons who are fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking, including sex trafficking. More information about Category 4 eligibility is available from [Safe Housing Partnerships](#).

Permanent Supportive Housing projects within the Eastern PA CoC all prioritize Chronically Homeless Households.

- How is chronic homelessness defined? An individual or family head of household has a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability.
AND
 - Is currently living in a place not meant for human habitation, or in an emergency shelter.
AND
 - Has been homeless for at least 12 months. This includes:
 - 12 Months Continuous: At least 12 months of continuous homelessness living in a place not meant for human habitation, or in an emergency shelter;
OR
 - 12 Months Cumulative: Has experienced homelessness during at least 4 separate occasions in the last three years, where these 4+ occasions equal a total of at least 12 months.

Eligible service area: The CoC is open to receiving applications that serve single counties or multiple counties within its geographic area. This may include surrounding counties, counties throughout the entire RHAB, or the entire CoC. If applying to serve multiple counties, applicants will be asked to describe their capacity to implement a regional project, either directly or through partnerships with other organizations throughout the region. **Note: the Lehigh Valley RHAB is being prioritized for funding available through this RFP.**

Eligible Project Types through this RFP:

- Permanent Supportive Housing Projects serving Chronically Homeless Households: Units must be dedicated specifically to individuals and families who meet the chronically homeless definition. When a program participant exits the project, the bed must be filled by another household that meets the definition unless there are no chronically homeless persons located in or seeking assistance within the CoC's geographic area.

Application Process and Requirements for Submission

To apply for new project funding, please submit a complete application package, which includes:

1. Online application, accessed through the following survey:
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8923706/Eastern-PA-CoC-FY26-New-PSH-Project-Application>
 - A Word doc version of the survey – for your review of application questions – is available here: [Word survey linked here](#)
2. Excel Budget Tool: The CoC has an Excel-based budget tool that applicants must use to submit the proposed project budget. [Budget Tool linked here](#)
 - As of the issuance of this RFP, HUD has not yet indicated what Fair Market Rent (FMR) year will be used in their project application. The CoC's budget tool uses the FY26 FMRs.
3. Additional attachments:
 - Documentation of 25% match
 - Non-profit status documentation
 - Proof of active SAM registration
 - Code of Conduct: <https://www.hud.gov/hud-partners/grants-code-of-conduct>
 - HUD Template: [CoC Conflict of Interest/Code of Conduct Template - HUD Exchange](#)
 - Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate

If you have difficulties using the survey, please reach out to the CoC at easterncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org

ALL MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EASTERN PA COC THROUGH THE APPLICATION SURVEY BY 5pm on July 31, 2026.

Webinars/Office Hours

Webinars:

- A webinar to review the 2026 CoC Competition NOFO was held on June 24, 2026.
 - Recording of the webinar can be accessed on the [CoC's NOFO page](#)

Office Hours:

- The CoC will host Office Hours sessions for project applicants:
 - Tuesday, July 21 at noon
 - <https://zoom.us/j/96264340184?pwd=nnSNwp19d7Q8KWSghbv8rZM3QX0AkB.1>
 - Wednesday, July 22 at 2pm
 - <https://zoom.us/j/94999274729?pwd=DTL8vC3LZua7e43WgbIMPjaOPoTSq0.1>
 - Thursday, July 23 at 9am
 - <https://zoom.us/j/99784051159?pwd=FI7woFNw2dUwFob3OveaHwvcFUKhpo.1>
 - ... More the week of July 27 to be announced
- The CoC will also make additional resources available as needed to assist applicants in completing the application process.

Eligible Project Costs, Project Budget and Match

A HUD CoC grant can be used towards:

- **Housing Costs:**
 - ✧ **Operating funds** to operate a site owned or leased by your agency
 - Funds may be used to pay the day-to-day operating costs in a single structure or individual housing units, including maintenance (such as scheduled replacement of major systems), repair, building security (when CoC Program funds pay for more than 50 percent of the facility by unit or area), electricity, gas, water, furniture, equipment, property insurance, and taxes.
 - These **costs may not be combined with rental assistance costs** within the same unit or structure.
 - Operating costs are not eligible under the SSO program component.
 - ✧ Under the SSO program component, operating costs related to spaces used to deliver supportive services are eligible costs under the Supportive Services budget line item. See Supportive Services for more details.

☞ **Rental Assistance** to assist a household pay their rent;

- Under a Rental Assistance model, the landlord enters into a lease with the program participant, who will pay 30% of their income to the landlord. The provider enters into an agreement with the landlord to pay the balance of the rent owed, after the rental payment by the program participant.
- There are three types of Rental Assistance:
 - ☞ Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA): In TBRA, the program participants locate housing in the private rental market and enter into a lease with the property owner.
 - ☞ Sponsor-Based Rental Assistance (SBRA): In SBRA, sponsor agencies rent units in the private market and then sublet the units to program participants. Sponsors may be private nonprofit organizations or community mental health agencies established as nonprofit organizations. If the participant moves, the sponsor may sublease to a different participant or use the SBRA in a different unit with the current participant. SBRA stays with the sponsor.
 - ☞ Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA): In PBRA, the recipient or subrecipient contracts for a particular unit or property and the participant then enters a lease with the landlord. If the participant moves, the PBRA stays with the unit for the next eligible participant.
- CoC program funds used for rental assistance may not be combined in a single structure or housing unit with CoC program funds used for leasing or operating.
- Non-profits are allowed to administer Rental Assistance in PSH projects.

☞ **Leasing** of a single site or scattered site housing units;

- Under a Leasing model, the provider enters into the lease with the landlord and has a sublease or rental agreement with the program participant. The provider pays 100% of the rent (up to Fair Market Rent), and the program participant pays 30% of household income to the provider.
- Funds may be used to lease individual units or all or part of structures. Rents must be reasonable, and, in the case of individual units, the rent paid cannot exceed HUD-determined Fair Market Rents (FMRs).
- Leasing funds **may not be used for units or structures owned** by the recipient, subrecipient, their parent organization(s), any other related organization(s), or organizations that are members of a partnership where the partnership owns the structure, without a HUD-authorized exception.

- **Supportive Services Costs:**

- Case management to assist households in obtaining and maintaining their housing. Where possible, applicants are encouraged to leverage existing services provided through your own organization and/or community partners to provide supportive services. In addition, connecting program participants to mainstream benefits is expected. Supportive services allowed as eligible costs under the CoC Program Interim Rule are detailed in 24 CFR § 578.53 and include:
 - Annual Assessment of Service Needs
 - Assistance with moving costs
 - Case management
 - Child care
 - Education services
 - Employment assistance and job training
 - Food
 - Housing search and counseling services
 - Legal services
 - Life skills training
 - Mental health services
 - Outpatient health services
 - Outreach services
 - Substance abuse treatment services
 - Transportation
 - Utility deposits
 - Direct provision of services

- **Administrative Costs:**

- Admin provides funding for your agency to manage the grant including drawing down funds and reporting to HUD.
- The Admin amount can be up to 10% of the total grant amount less Admin.
- Eligible administrative costs are limited to: general management, oversight and coordination of the grant; training on CoC requirements; and environmental review. Admin costs do not include staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out eligible activities, as these are eligible under the corresponding Budget Line Items.
- Please review 24 CFR § 578.59⁹ for more information about eligible administrative costs.

Further detail from HUD about eligible activities can be found in the CoC Virtual Binders¹⁰ and in the CoC Interim Rule Subpart D – Program Components and Eligible Costs.¹¹ It is the responsibility of the project applicant to ensure that applications are submitted with only eligible budget line items. Project budgets should not exceed the amount available for the specific funding type (e.g. CoC Bonus, DV Bonus) for which you are applying. The CoC's

Funding Committee reserves the right to approve an amount other than the amount requested.

- **Match Requirements**

The grantee must provide a 25% match – either cash or in-kind. In-kind match, for example, can be any of the eligible services listed above. The leasing budget line item is not included in the grant’s match calculation. Match commitments require an MOU and documentation. Monthly rents (program income) collected under the operations or leasing model can count towards the match, so long as rules related to program income are followed. For more on CoC Program Match requirements:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-match/coc-match-overview/>

CoC Requirements for All Project Applicants

- ⊄ **Compliance**: The applicant certifies this project will comply with all Eastern PA CoC policies and HUD regulations and notices. All CoC-funded projects will be expected to comply with the CoC Program Interim Rule. Those unfamiliar with the CoC Program Interim Rule are advised to carefully review “Subpart F—Program Requirements” of the HUD CoC Program Interim Rule: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule/>
- ⊄ **HMIS Participation**: The applicant certifies that the project does or will participate in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and complies with the CoC’s HMIS Policies and Procedures. All CoC Program funded projects must enter complete, accurate, and timely data into the PA Homeless Management Information System (PA-HMIS). This will include adhering to the data quality and data timeliness expectations outlined within the [PA HMIS User Agreement](#). Victim Service Providers (VSPs) must utilize a comparable database. Projects that do not participate, or have not agreed to participate, are not eligible for funding.
- ⊄ **Coordinated Entry Participation**: The applicant certifies that the project does or will participate in the CoC’s Coordinated Entry process and will comply with all related policies and procedures. All project participants enrolled must come from the CoC’s Coordinated Entry By Name List, a prioritized waiting list.
- ⊄ **Written Standards**: The applicant certifies that the project will operate within the allowable confines of the [Eastern PA CoC Written Standards](#).
- ⊄ **Timeliness**: The applicant certifies they have the capacity to operate this program in accordance with HUD requirements including:
 - Submitting an Annual Progress Report (APR) to HUD on time/ no more than 90 days after the end of the grant period
 - Drawing down funds at least quarterly

- Expending all of grant funds within the 12-month grant period
- ✗ Anti-Discrimination: The applicant certifies that they will not engage in illegal racial discrimination, consistent with [2 CFR 200.300.a](#).
- ✗ Prohibition of Illicit Drug Enablement: The applicant certifies they will not operate drug injection sites or safe consumption sites in violation of [21 U.S.C. 856\(a\)\(1\)](#), knowingly permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control in violation of [21 U.S.C. 856\(a\)\(2\)](#), or knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off property under their control in violation of [21 U.S.C. 863](#). NOTE: This certification is not a requirement that program participants must be sober in order to receive assistance, participate in treatment in order to receive assistance, or be evicted or exited from assistance for a first-time violation of a drug-related program policy or lease requirement.
- ✗ Eligible Clients: The applicant certifies this project will serve only eligible clients that meet HUD's Homeless Definition as outlined in the FY2026 CoC NOFO, Eastern PA CoC's Request for Proposals, and in the CoC's Written Standards.
- ✗ CoC Participation: All CoC-funded projects will be expected to participate in the meetings of the local Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) and Coordinated Entry By Name List (BNL) meetings (if applicable). In addition, all applicants must be or must become a member of the Eastern PA CoC/ Eastern PA Coalition for Housing, attend meetings of the full CoC, and attend trainings provided through the CoC.

Applicant Selection Process

HUD requires that all project applications meet Threshold Review requirements to be eligible for funding. As outlined in the FY2026 NOFO (pp. 58–68), projects must pass both: Project Eligibility Threshold Review, and New Project Quality Threshold Review, including all criteria specific to the proposed project type/component (beginning on p. 63).

All applications will be reviewed by the Eastern PA CoC's Funding Committee against HUD's threshold review. Applications that do not meet the criteria stated in the FY26 CoC NOFO will not be considered for funding or advancement in the competition. Applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully review the FY26 CoC NOFO to ensure compliance with all threshold requirements prior to submission.

Projects that pass HUD's threshold criteria will be scored using the CoC's New Project Scoring Tool. Projects serving the Lehigh Valley RHAB will be heavily prioritized for this funding. The CoC reserves the right to approve an amount of funding other than the amount requested.

Please note that the score awarded to each applicant via the new project scoring tool is one component of how the Funding Committee will determine which new projects are

selected to be submitted for funding under the CoC Competition. The Funding Committee will also factor in the need for the project based on CoC priorities, gaps analysis data, geographic coverage across the CoC, how the project compares to other projects submitted under this RFP, as well as prior performance of the applicant operating CoC-funded or ESG-funded projects or projects/programs funded through other sources.

- € Applicants are strongly encouraged to use the CoC's 2026 Gaps Analysis to identify needs and gaps within the CoC. Data within the Gaps Analysis can be used to support the need for new programming in your community. The 2026 Gaps Analysis can be found here: <https://pennsylvaniacoc.org/eastern-pa-coc-2026-gaps-analysis>. Applicants can also review 2026 Point in Time Count data here: <https://pennsylvaniacoc.org/2026-point-time-pit-count-and-housing-inventory-count-hic-0>

CoC Program funding is not guaranteed to the organization(s) selected for funding consideration through this RFP. Funding will be made available by HUD based on available funds and the performance of Eastern PA CoC in the 2026 Continuum of Care Program national competition.

HUD's Funding Process

HUD will use the Tier 1 and Tier 2 selection process described in sections V.D.3.a, V.D.3.b and V.D.3.c of the NOFO.

- € **Tier 1:** The FY26 CoC Program NOFO set Tier 1 as 60 percent of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). Tier 1 is estimated to be approximately **\$18,105,411** for the Eastern PA CoC. HUD will conditionally select project applications in Tier 1 from the highest scoring CoC application to the lowest scoring CoC application and according to the rank assigned by the CoC on the CoC Priority listing, provided the project applications pass both project eligibility, quality, and project-specific threshold review.
- € **Tier 2:** All other funding that the CoC is eligible to apply for will be considered as Tier 2 funding. Tier 2 is estimated to be approximately **\$20,955,820** for the Eastern PA CoC. All CoCs nationally compete for their projects in Tier 2. The amount CoCs may receive in Tier 2 funding will depend heavily on how the CoC scores in Merit Review compared to other CoCs across the country. Tier 2 funds will be competitively bid by HUD using the funding process on page 88 and scoring process on page 90 of the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO.
- € **CoC Ranking:** The Eastern PA CoC's ranking of project applications will determine which projects are in Tier 1 and which projects are in Tier 2. Higher ranked projects will be assigned to Tier 1, and lower ranked projects will be assigned to Tier 2. For more information about the CoC's Ranking process, please review the [Eastern PA funding policies for the CoC Competition](#)

Projects selected by HUD to receive CoC Program funds will initially be 1-year grants and will be eligible for annual renewal, dependent on the availability of funding from HUD, CoC priorities, and project performance. HUD has indicated that FY26 funding awards will be announced by December 1, 2026.

Timeline

July 20	RFP Released and posted to the CoC website
July 21, 12pm	Office Hours (Optional): Question and Answer session https://zoom.us/j/96264340184?pwd=nnSNwp19d7Q8KWSghbv8rZM3QX0AkB.1
July 22, 2pm	Office Hours (Optional): Question and Answer session https://zoom.us/j/94999274729?pwd=DTL8vC3LZua7e43WgblMPjaOPoTSq0.1
July 23, 9am	Office Hours (Optional): Question and Answer session https://zoom.us/j/99784051159?pwd=Fl7woFNw2dUwFob3OveaHwvcFUKhpo.1
July 27-30 (TBD)	Additional Office Hours to be added
July 31, 5pm	New Project Applications due
August 3 – 7	New Project Applications Reviewed, Scored, and Ranked
By August 7	New Project decisions announced; appeal window opened
By August 11	Final project selection and ranking announced

Organizations selected by the CoC to submit new project applications to HUD will need to complete an application in e-snaps, HUD’s electronic application system - <https://esnaps.hud.gov/>. If the organization does not already have a profile in e-snaps, that will be the first step to utilizing the system. Instructions for utilizing e-snaps are available on HUD’s website - <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>.