



# TX 503 Austin/Travis County CoC FY2025 NOFO Project Scoring Tool Navigational Guide (PSH Renewals)

The purpose of this document is to guide PSH renewal applicants wanting to be considered in the 30% cap for permanent housing. It includes instructions, definitions, and detailed explanations of the scoring tool sections for each project component. This scoring guide outlines the objective criteria, system performance criteria, and qualitative information used by the Independent Review Team to score each project application in line with the HUD NOFO requirements and policy priorities.

**Threshold Requirements:** The pass/fail categories below will determine whether your project will be moving to the scoring stage or not. To proceed to the next stage, you have to pass all the categories. Failing in any of them means your project will be rejected. Below is the table from the scoring tool with explanation regarding each category.

Category	Details/ Attachments Needed
<b>NOFO Alignment:</b> Project demonstrates alignment with FY25 NOFO priorities: treatment, recovery, accountability, safety, stability, and economic mobility.	<p>The PSH Project requires participants to engage in supportive services as a condition of staying in the housing. <b>(Projects must attach their program agreement stating services are required to maintain housing).</b></p> <p>The PSH project will serve only people over the age of 62 and/or individuals with a physical or developmental disability (24 CFR 582.5) not including substance use disorder.</p>
<b>Affirmative Attestation of Acceptable Past Performance (Renewals)</b>	No unresolved HUD findings, No outstanding overdue obligations to HUD, No major financial management issues, No unresolved construction or program-delivery issues and No history of low occupancy or chronic underperformance.
<b>Affirmative Certification to the Following:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project applicant will not engage in racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination.</li> <li>2. The project applicant will not operate drug injection sites or "safe consumption sites," knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control, permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control, or conduct any of these activities under the pretext of "harm reduction."</li> </ol>	You must certify this in your local application



**Project Scoring:** The application is scored out of 100 points, distributed across three sections. To maximize your score, use this navigational guide as a checklist while developing your application.

### Project Design (50 Points)

Criteria	Max Points	Details/Attachments Needed
<p><b>Alignment with Community Funding Priorities:</b> Mirroring FY2025 NOFO funding objectives.</p> <p><b>0</b> – Did not answer the question.</p> <p><b>1-3</b> – Narrative references the NOFO objectives, but does not elaborate</p> <p><b>4-7</b> – Narrative includes at least one example of how the NOFO priorities will be met</p> <p><b>8-10</b> – Narrative includes an example of how the NOFO priorities will be met in each of the areas listed in the NOFO.</p> <p><b>11-13</b> – Narrative includes a description of current or future partnerships and how these will be integrated into the project design.</p> <p><b>14-15</b> – Data or reports referenced demonstrating previous implementation outcomes for the project design.</p>	15	<p>Below are the NOFO objectives and details to align with each one with examples provided</p> <p><b>Ending the Crisis of Homelessness on Our Streets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Focus on outreach, engagement, and intervention for unsheltered individuals.</li> <li>➤ Partner with law enforcement, first responders, and local governments to safely reduce encampments and public camping.</li> <li>➤ Include strategies to help participants regain stable housing and achieve self-sufficiency.</li> </ul> <p><b>Prioritizing Treatment and Recovery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Incorporate on-site behavioral health treatment, substance use recovery support, and wraparound services.</li> <li>➤ Include participation requirements that encourage engagement in services and recovery programs.</li> <li>➤ Leverage mainstream programs and local/private resources to maintain safe, stable housing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Advancing Public Safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ensure your project contributes to community safety for participants and the public.</li> <li>➤ Design interventions that reduce exposure to dangerous encampments, illicit drug activity, and trauma.</li> <li>➤ Collaborate with first responders to support participant engagement and protect vulnerable populations, especially women and youth.</li> </ul> <p><b>Promoting Self-Sufficiency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Offer pathways to long-term economic independence, such as employment support, education, childcare, and financial literacy.</li> <li>➤ Show how your project helps participants increase income, gain skills, and transition out of homelessness permanently.</li> </ul> <p><b>Improving Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Demonstrate measurable impact: reduced homelessness, improved self-sufficiency, and increased participation in treatment and recovery.</li> <li>➤ Use data to show effectiveness, including past performance if applicable.</li> </ul>



		<b>Minimizing Trauma</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Implement trauma-informed care practices throughout your project.</li> <li>➤ Prioritize participant safety, especially for youth and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking.</li> <li>➤ Provide safe, gender-sensitive spaces and services to reduce trauma and support recovery.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Partnerships:</b> <b>0</b> – Did not answer the question. <b>1-3</b> Narrative references partnerships, but they are not in place yet. <b>4-7</b> – Narrative includes at least one formal partnership already in place. <b>8-10</b> – Narrative includes a formal healthcare partnership. <b>11-13</b> – Narrative includes multiple formal partnerships for participants to access services, including healthcare services. <b>14-15</b> – Narrative includes multiple formal partnerships for participants to access services, including healthcare services. Data is provided on outcomes from these partnerships.	15	<b>Coordination and Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Highlight partnerships relevant to your project and population served, specifically for healthcare.</li> </ul>
<b>Cost Effectiveness</b> <b>Average Cost Per Household</b> Project will receive full points if they provide the cost per household for the project and an explanation as to why this is cost-effective.	20	<b>Average cost per household</b> Show the cost per household for the project and an explanation as to why this is cost-effective according to 2 CFR 200.404

### Performance Planning (30 Points)

Criteria	Max Points	Details/Attachments Needed
Housing Retention: Returns to homelessness <b>0</b> – Anything more than 20% of clients returning to homelessness in less than 12	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This will be pulled from HMIS records.</li> </ul>



<p>months according to CoC Performance metrics</p> <p><b>15</b> – Data shows that more than 10% but less than 20% of clients returned to homelessness in less than 12 months according to CoC Performance metrics.</p> <p><b>30</b> – Data shows that less than 10% of clients return to homelessness in less than 12 months according to CoC Performance Records.</p>		
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### Component Specific Factors (20 Points)

PSH (renewals only)

Criteria	Max Points	Details/Attachments Needed
<p>Strategy to increase earned income</p> <p>0 – Did not answer question</p> <p>1-5 – The narrative loosely describes a plan but does not include how participants will be supported before, during, and after employment is obtained.</p> <p>6-10 – The narrative provides a thorough plan for supporting participants before, during, and after employment is obtained.</p> <p>11-15 – The narrative provides a thorough plan for supporting participants before, during, and after employment is obtained. Plans for partnerships are provided that will support participants. Less than 50% of participants increased their employment incomes (as shown in the Performance Scorecard).</p> <p>16-20 – Data shows at least 50% of clients increased their employment income (as shown in the Performance Scorecard). A plan provides a thorough plan for supporting participants before, during, and after employment is obtained. Plans for</p>	20	<p>The project should present a clear strategy showing how participants will be supported in securing employment, increasing earnings, and building long-term economic independence. A strong income growth strategy includes:</p> <p><b>Assessment of Employment Readiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Describe how you assess each participant's employment history, skills, barriers, and readiness at intake.</li> <li>➤ Use standardized tools or assessments to identify strengths and areas needing support.</li> </ul> <p><b>Individualized Employment Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Create individualized employment plans with specific, achievable goals.</li> <li>➤ Align employment goals with participant needs, abilities, and long-term stability.</li> </ul> <p><b>Workforce and Employer Partnerships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Demonstrate active partnerships with workforce development centers, job training programs, local employers, and apprenticeships.</li> <li>➤ Highlight access to job fairs, certification programs, GED/education services, and on-the-job training.</li> <li>➤ Include MOUs or letters of support when possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Skill-Building and Job Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Offer job-readiness activities such as resume development, interview practice, digital literacy training, and workplace skills.</li> <li>➤ Provide or connect participants to vocational training and credentialing programs that lead to higher-paying jobs.</li> </ul>



<p>partnerships are provided that will support participants.</p>	<p><b>Supportive Services That Remove Employment Barriers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Show how your program helps participants overcome obstacles to employment, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Childcare, transportation, Behavioral Health Treatment, Substance use recovery support, legal advocacy, documentation assistance</li></ul></li><li>➤ Emphasize that services are coordinated to promote job success.</li></ul> <p><b>Employer Engagement and Job Placement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Describe how your team engages employers, matches participants to appropriate roles, and coordinates job placement.</li><li>➤ Demonstrate familiarity with local job market needs and emerging employment sectors.</li></ul> <p><b>Income Tracking and Performance Review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Explain how you monitor employment progress, income growth, and retention through case management and HMIS.</li><li>➤ Show how employment outcomes drive program improvements.</li></ul> <p><b>Long-Term Economic Mobility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Include strategies that support advancement, not just initial job placement—such as career laddering, continued training, and follow-up coaching. Emphasize how stable employment supports housing retention and long-term independence, directly aligning with FY2025 NOFO priorities.</li></ul>
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