



# FY 2026 CoC NOFO Applicant Webinar

*JUNE 23, 2026*



# ECHO



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*Director of Planning*

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*VP of Strategy*

The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) is the **backbone of our community's Homelessness Response System**. As the lead agency for the Austin/Travis County Continuum of Care, **we lead and align a coalition responsible for planning and implementing community-wide strategies to end homelessness**. We work alongside people with firsthand experience of homelessness and nonprofit, government, and philanthropic partners to **build a future in which everyone in our community has housing of their choice that provides a foundation for optimal health, success, and stability**. Learn more: [austinecho.org](http://austinecho.org).



# What is HUD's Continuum of Care Program?



## Program Purpose

The CoC Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to ending homelessness by:

Providing funding for efforts to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families

Minimizing trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals and families

Promoting access to mainstream programs and services

Optimizing self-sufficiency among individuals and families

**\$4B+**

Annual Federal  
Funding Available

**400+**

CoC Regions  
Across the U.S.

**7,000+**

Funded Projects  
Nationwide



# Roles



## HUD

- Provides Parameters of CoC Competition Requirements in NOFO
- Scores the collaborative application and reviews the project applications.
- Awards project applications based on a compilation of those reviews. Historically, highest ranked projects are more likely to get awarded.

## Leadership Council (local CoC Board)

- Creates local funding policies within the HUD NOFO parameters
- Decides who is submitted to HUD by ranking in order of priority for funding

## ECHO

- Provides technical assistance to providers and Leadership Council, as well as administrative support for the competition
- Submits on behalf of the CoC the project applications and a collaborative application with narrative and data elements

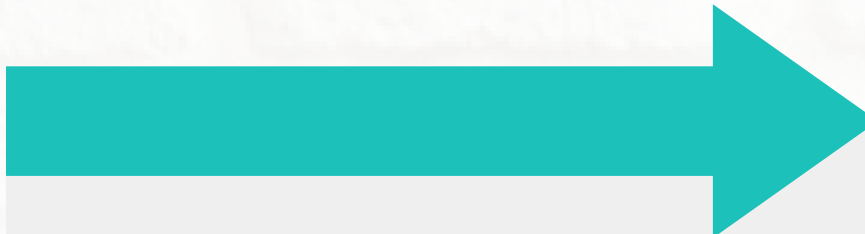
# How the Annual Competition Works



# Local Competition Basics



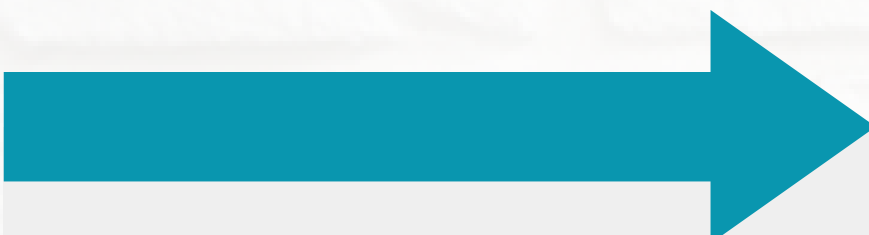
Create your local application in Zoom Grants and then e-snaps (when HUD makes available)



Application reviewed by ECHO for Threshold Requirements and Project Quality



Application scored by Independent Review Team



Notification of Ranking to Applicants



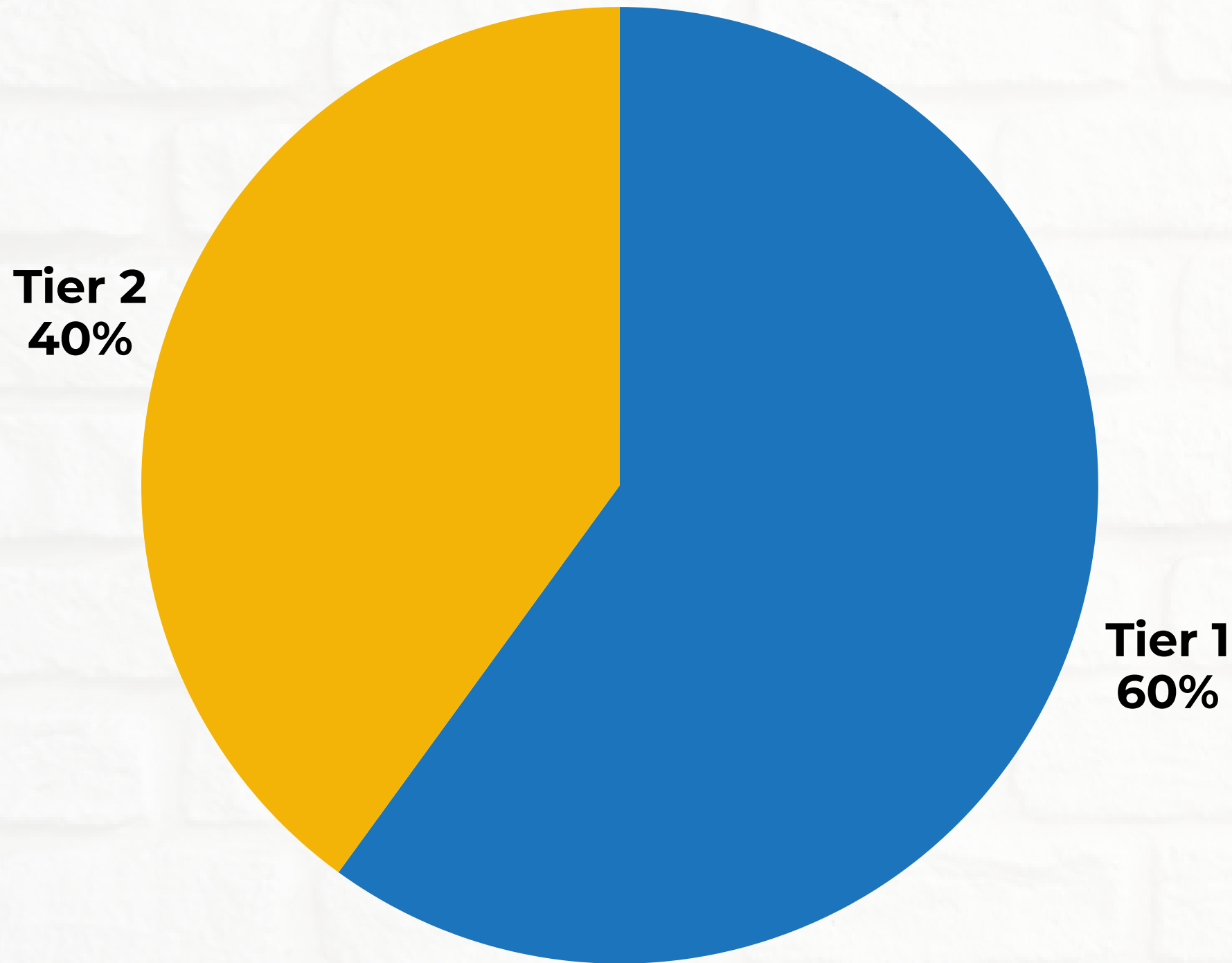
Priority Listing approved by Leadership Council



Collaborative application submitted to HUD



# Project Rankings



## Tier 1

Usually funded and considered safe

## Tier 2

Competed nationally and our CoC score nationally factors significantly into how they fund projects in Tier 2



# Project Intervention Definitions - Review 24 CFR 578



- PSH - Clients must be chronically homeless and have a documented disability. No time limit and provides robust supportive services
- RRH - Time-limited permanent housing and services support (up to 24 months) No chronic or disability requirement.
- SSO Stand-Alone - Only services to people experiencing homelessness or in shelter (see 24 CFR 578.37, 578.53) - focuses on assisting people to exit homelessness, addresses barriers (i.e. workforce services, treatment, case management, childcare, etc), increase self sufficiency
- SSO - Street Outreach - work with people with people who do not traditionally engage with services. History of or plan to partner with first responders and law enforcement
- SSO - Coordinated Entry (CE) - Works to implement a CE system to reach people with the highest needs.
- Transitional Housing - temporary housing up to 24 months with services to help people exit out of homelessness.



# Shift in Federal Priorities



## **FY 2024 CoC NOFO**

- **Housing First**
- **Unsheltered homelessness**
- **Equity**
- **Low barrier access**
- **Permanent housing**

## **FY 2026 CoC NOFO**

- **Self-sufficiency**
- **Treatment and recovery**
- **Transitional housing**
- **Competitive renewals**
- **Geographic shifts for funding**



# Key Differences in the FY 2026 CoC NOFO



- *Although there is no Permanent Housing cap (RRH and PSH), there are a series of set asides that leave much less money (or potentially none) for PSH renewals out of the \$4.14 billion dollars set aside for this year's NOFO (Therefore this competition is not accepting any new PSH or RRH projects (except for DV Bonus))*
- *Transitional housing must provide 20 hrs of weekly support services instead of 40 hrs.*
- *Self-sufficiency is defined as someone exiting to permanent housing without a need for a housing subsidy.*
- *From the NOFO: "Many individuals with disabilities, including impairment due to SUD, are able to recover and regain self-sufficiency."*
- *Order of selection criteria makes it clear not all PSH renewals will be funded.*



# Our Competition - By the Numbers



**60% of our CoCs Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) can be placed in Tier 1**

**ARD: \$16.1 million**

**60% \$9.6 million**

**40% for Tier 2 estimated at \$6.5 million**

**DV Bonus estimated \$3.2 million**

**CoC Bonus estimated \$2.4 million**



# HUD's Selection Criteria



**Selection criteria and bonus amounts shows no clear path to fund all renewals**

## **Not Competitive**

- 1) CoC Planning grant (does not count toward ARD)
- 2) Tier 1 projects - must pass threshold but do not have to change project type or target population

## **Competitive: Based on CoC Score - Order that HUD will award**

- 1) DV Bonus projects until they reach \$104 million
- 2) Permanent Housing (RRH or PSH) for families with children until they reach \$430 million
- 3) TH and SSO projects in Tier 2 until they reach \$1.3 billion
- 4) Other Tier 2 renewal projects based on CoC score



# NOFO Policies (1 of 3)

## Prioritized for Tier 1



*Prioritize the following **renewal** projects for Tier One (will be prioritized/ranked in order according to ranking policy)*

- *PSH targeted to Elderly*
- *PSH that are site-based with a loan requirement that the housing remain permanent housing*
- *HMIS + expansion grant*
- *Coordinated Entry Projects*
- *Transitional housing projects*
- *PSH serving people primarily with serious mental illness*

*If additional funding is available in Tier 1 after the above have been ranked, the following will be prioritized for Tier 1.*

- *PSH renewals serving people with no specific subpopulation*



# NOFO Policies (2 of 3)



## *Other Renewal Policy Requirements:*

- *All RRH and PSH project dedicated to Youth must transition to TH or SSO*
  - *YHDP projects must follow NOFO YHDP transition grant guidance*
- *All RRH Programs must transition to Transitional Housing*



# NOFO Policies (3 of 3)



## *Renewal Project Options for Projects Not Ranked in Tier 1:*

- *Transition to Transitional Housing or SSO Only*
- *Return funds to CoC*

## *New Project Options through CoC Bonus Funds:*

- *New Transitional Housing*
- *New SSO-Stand Alone, SSO-Street Outreach, SSO-Coordinated Entry*
- *Expansion Grants (only TH, SSO, HMIS)*

## *New Project Options through DV Bonus -*

- *Rapid Rehousing*
- *SSO - CE, or*
- *Transitional Housing*



# Transitional Housing & Rental Assistance



- *Non-profit organizations may not administer rental assistance for transitional housing unless it is a YHDP project. (24 CFR 578.51 b and FY 2026 CoC NOFO Special Exceptions for YHDP)*
- *Non-profits may provide sponsor-based leasing or if they own the property, they may operate rental costs as operational costs.*
- *Rental assistance must be administered by a State, unit of general local government, or a public housing agency.*



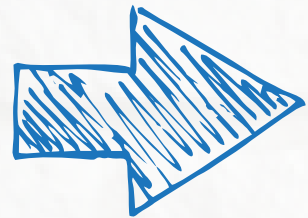
# Project Threshold Requirements



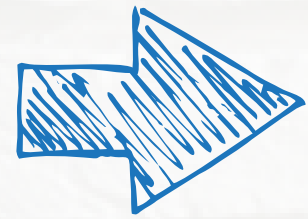
- *Eligible applicants*
- *Required certifications*
- *Coordinated Entry participation*
- *Eligible component type*
- *Match requirement (25%)*
- *Attestations regarding racial preferences and “safe drug consumption sites”*
- *Signed CoC Expectation form (New Projects Only)*
- *Completed e-snaps application*



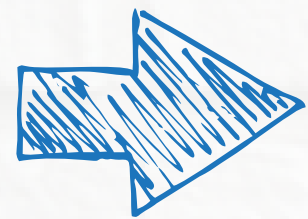
# Local Competition Ranking Process



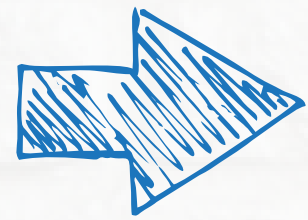
*All project applications submitted through e-snaps and reviewed by an Independent Review Team (IRT) except for the CoC Planning grant.*



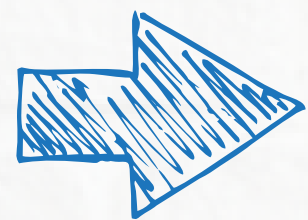
*IRT reviews all project application submissions and scores projects based on Scoring Criteria.*



*ECHO provides project priority ranking (Tier 1 and Tier 2) according to NOFO policies, including the FY26 Review, Ranking, and Scoring Policy and FY26 NOFO requirements.*



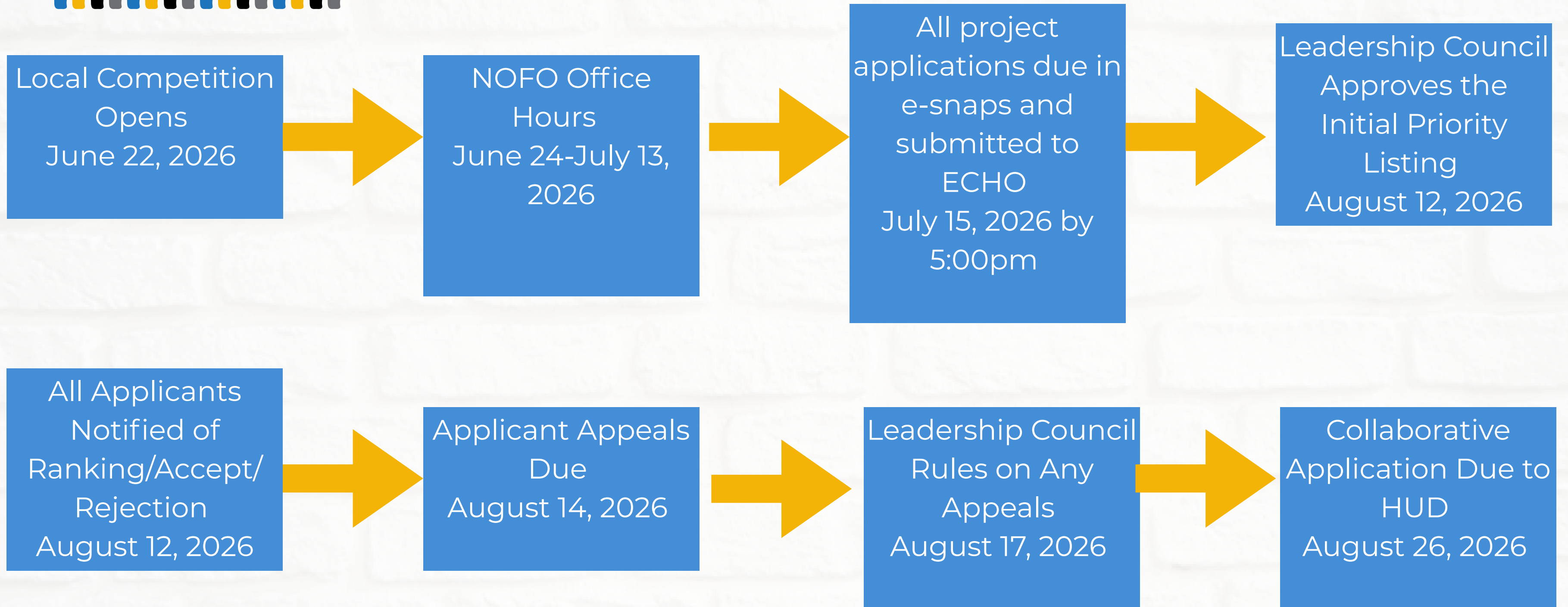
*ECHO presents ranking recommendations to Leadership Council.*



*Leadership Council approves final ranking decision.*



# FY 2026 CoC NOFO Timeline



# HUD Announced Office Hours



**HUD (Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs) sent an email announcing an Office Hour**

*The Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) is hosting a FY26 Competition Office Hours to share information with homeless providers and community partners about the FY2026 CoC NOFO. Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 3:00 pm ET*

*Reviewed: Eligible project types, some project application information, and Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) updates.*

*You do not need to register in advance.*



# ECHO Office Hours



*There will be two types of Office Hours offered by ECHO staff*

*For Transitional Housing Project types: (specifically to discuss project design)*

*Thu, 6/25/2026, 3pm-4pm*

*Thu, 7/2/2026, 3pm-4pm*

*All other NOFO questions and Office Hours will be scheduled separately.*

***Email [NOFO@austinecho.org](mailto:NOFO@austinecho.org) to request a time to schedule office hours to discuss your application.***



**THANK YOU**

**Contact:**

*NOFO@austinecho.org*

