

2017-2018
Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Program Activities
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Question:** One of the scoring changes this year is that there will be no points for *continuity*, how do you define continuity?

Answer: Activity rating factors for State Objectives In the 2016 HOME NOFA awarded 50 points to “jurisdictions that applied for but did not receive HOME Program Activity Funding in 2015 if the Department determines that the application was eligible but could not be funded because the score was below the funding cut-off”.

However, in the 2018 HOME NOFA Section I C (1) (a) “What is new in the NOFA” (State Objective Points) Continuity Points were reduced from 50 to 0.

2. **Question:** Can you clarify how to get State Objective points in the Access to Opportunity/Homelessness category and what part Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) plays in getting those points?

Answer: In the 2018 HOME NOFA Table 12 (HOME Program Activities Rating Factors) State Objectives, One hundred ten (110) points are available to applicants with local governments for access to opportunity and homelessness actions who have:

- 1) Identified in the access to opportunity strategies at least one activity in each of the following three categories: Outreach and engagement, prioritize and diversify investment and encourage housing choices in higher opportunity neighborhoods **AND**
- 2) Either applied for TBRA or identified in the homelessness strategies at least one action in each of the following three categories: zoning and land use, funding and data outreach and coordination.

Please read Appendix I carefully as applicants will only receive the full 110 points if they have submitted the Appendix I Scoring Form and *have indicated a status of completed, planned, or pending for each action*. If each action does not indicate status, the applicant will receive zero points in this category.

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- 3. Question:** If ADC can exceed 24 percent with documentation and HCD approval, is the ability to exceed 24 percent (with receipts) retroactive?

Answer: The ability to exceed the 24% relates to the 2017-2018 NOFA. There has been no decision made by the Department to make it retroactive to previous awards or Program Income Projects.

- 4. Question:** Regarding Infill New Construction, are ADU units eligible?

Answer: No, ADU units are not eligible. ADUs require a change to state HOME regulations.

- 5. Question:** Can you confirm the compliance date for the Single Audit Reporting?

Answer: In accordance with the 2017-2018 HOME NOFA, Section VII (A)(5), "HCD will make the determination on the status of compliance as of application due date by consultation with SCO only."

- 6. Question:** Page 16 of the NOFA states that applicants with no open home contracts past the expenditure deadline may apply for up to \$500,000. If our last HOME contract was in 2013, is \$500,000 our maximum application amount?

Answer: The 2018 HOME NOFA (page 16, Table 3) identifies the maximum application amounts based on the expenditure rates of applicants with HOME Program activities contracts. Applicants with no open HOME contracts past the expenditure deadline may apply for up to \$500,000.

- 7. Question:** Can a local nonprofit housing developer NOT certified as a CHDO apply for funding?

Answer: Eligible applicants for the HOME Program are restricted to; developers, cities and counties, and *a non-profit that has been certified* as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 92.2. CHDO's must meet eligibility requirements as stated in the NOFA.

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- 8. Question:** In the application Tab IX, *Rural Designation*, It instructs users to select “**2011 SF1 100% Data**” under Data Set but that is not an option in the dropdown menu. There is however an option for “**2010 SF1 100% Data**”. Is this the option applicant should select?

Answer: Although Step 2 of the instructions state “use 2011 SF1 100% Data” the US Census Bureau is not reporting this data through 2011. The most current data is through 2010 so the “2010 SF1 100% Data” option should be selected.

- 9. Question:** Can an eligible applicant (County Government) apply for two program activities? For example one application for TBRA and the other for down-payment assistance to first time homebuyers?

Answer: Yes, a county may apply for two program activities (TBRA and FTHB assistance) but cannot exceed the maximum application amount when combining the totals as reflected on page 12 of the NOFA.

- 10. Question:** Can you clarify if resumes and estimated hours for subsequent staff are required in the application Part B, page 3?

Answer: Instructions for Part B indicate the following: ***Attach, as Exhibit B1, copies of resumes for the State Recipient Staff who will work on this proposed activity***

Page 3 also states, *in the chart below, list all team members who will be responsible for the implementation and operation of the HOME Program Activity and/or oversee the work of an administrative subcontractor/subrecipient if one is proposed. Briefly describe the roles and responsibilities of each member, and for applicant staff only, **the estimated amount of hours per month devoted to the administration of the program.***

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11. Question: Can a CHDO apply for program activities?

Answer: No, A CHDO is not eligible to apply for program activities. However, a CHDO may be eligible for Acquisition with Rehabilitation. “To be considered a CHDO-eligible activity, the CHDO must assume the role of developer and own the property, completing the rehabilitation of the unit prior to selling the home to an eligible homebuyer.”

Or

A CHDO may be eligible for Infill New Construction. “To be considered a CHDO-eligible activity, the CHDO must assume the role of developer, own the property during construction, and sell the home to an eligible homebuyer within nine months of completion. All dwellings must be situated on land held in fee simple, leasehold, or another manner approved in writing by HCD and be affixed on a permanent foundation.”

12. Question: I am reviewing the NOFA and wanted further clarification. Page 16 states that “Applicants with no open HOME contracts past the expenditure deadline may apply for up to \$500,000”. The last HOME award the county received was in 2013. What is our maximum application amount?

Answer: Yes, that is correct; applicants with no open HOME contracts may apply for up to \$500,000.

13. Question: We are applying for a FTHB program; does the Pet-Friendly Housing Act of 2017 apply to programs?

Answer: No, the pet-friendly act only applies to rental new construction and rental rehabilitation projects.