

**Flint & Genesee County CoC
Policy: Ranking & Review Policy
and Procedure**

Subject: Ranking & Review Policy and Procedure		Policy #: 401
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Distribution: All Governance Council Members, General Members, Committee Members, Contracted Entities		Number of Pages: 3

Overview

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires Continua of Care to rank all projects being recommended for funding into two tiers as part of the Consolidated Application's Priority Listing.

- Tier 1 is defined by HUD in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) as a percent of a Continuum of Care's (CoC) Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) approved by HUD. Tier 1 projects traditionally maintain existing funding in the NOFO competition provided the CoC's Consolidated Application is properly submitted and meets the minimum threshold score established by HUD.
- The amount of funding available in Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for all bonus projects. Tier 2 projects must compete nationally for funding and are therefore at risk of not being awarded.

Renewal projects are those with existing CoC funded grant agreements, as noted on the approved HUD Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW).

New projects are those applying for the first time in a given year.

Project Rankings

Project applications are ordered from highest to lowest ranking in the CoC's Priority Listing, and in accordance with HUD's two-tier system as outlined in the NOFO.

CoC's that score high enough on their NOFO may be awarded Bonus Funds and/or Domestic Violence Bonus Funds. Both types of Bonus Funds are awarded by HUD based on a competitive national rating and ranking process.

Projects are ranked according to their assigned score in the Priority Listing in two Tiers as outlined below, with the exception of projects supporting the CoC infrastructure (i.e. HMIS, SSO-CE) necessary to maintain the homeless delivery system and first time renewals. These CoC infrastructure projects are often referred to as the CoC's Planning Project. As required by HUD, the CoC's infrastructure projects do not receive a score and are not ranked in the CoC Priority Listing.

Tier 1: Project Ranking

CoC Infrastructure projects are defined as dedicated HMIS grants and Supportive Services Only- Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) grants. The CoC's renewal infrastructure projects will be automatically renewed and given a rank in the middle of Tier 1 based on the total of applications on the Priority Listing ranked in Tier 1 that maximizes the allowable ARD. Renewal SSO-CE project will be ranked above renewal HMIS project as SSO-CE project provides direct services to people experiencing homelessness.

Projects that are renewing for the first time in the competition, and subsequently have not completed a full project year and have not submitted an APR to HUD will not have a Project Renewal Scorecard. These projects will be automatically renewed and ranked in the middle of Tier 1 based on the total number of applications on the Priority Listing ranked in Tier 1 that maximizes the allowable percentage of the ARD.

Fully funding high performing renewal projects by placing them fully in Tier 1 maximizes the amount of funding coming into our community. See the Reallocation Policy to determine handling low performing renewal projects. HUD regulations prevent first year renewals, HMIS or SSO-CE projects from being placed as a straddler in Tier 1 and Tier 2.

Tier 1: Tie Breaking

In the event that two projects earn the same score based on the Flint/Genesee County CoC's scoring tool, resulting in the same rank/placement on the Priority Listing, the following criteria will apply:

- First Tie-Breaker: CoC Ratings and Ranking Committee identifies a project as a priority to meet a community-wide need based on current data (point-in-time count, needs and gaps analysis, system performance measures, e.g.)
- Second Tie-Breaker: The project exceeded the number of households served from the previous grant year.
- Third Tie-Breaker: The project with the highest percentage of project participants who exited to permanent housing.
- Fourth Tie-Breaker: The project with the highest percentage of project participants with increased income or benefits.

Tier 1/Tier 2: Project Straddling

If a project, once listed in ranking order, straddles the Tier 1/Tier 2 funding line with a portion of the project budget falling within Tier 1 and the remaining within Tier 2, the viability of a project to operate with only the Tier 1 amount will be determined by the CoC Ratings and Ranking Committee taking into account the feasibility of operating the project with reduced funds, community need (reduced outcomes), and maximizing the percentage of Tier 1 funding available to the CoC. The Ratings and Ranking Committee may continue to evaluate all Tier 1 low ranking projects until a viable project for Tier 1/Tier 2 straddler is identified.

Tier 2: Project Ranking

Renewal projects will be ranked in Tier 2 according to their overall project score. If applicable, new and Expansion Projects created from reallocated funding may be ranked higher than renewals placed in Tier 2. The CoC Funding Review Committee may take into account the project's positive impact on the community, whether the renewal project had funding recaptured, and the percentage of the ARD left in Tier 2 funding that is available to the CoC. Because CoC Bonus Project and DV Bonus Project applications must compete nationally for funding, they are ranked according to scores chronologically, below renewal and reallocated projects. If a Bonus Project is ranked higher than a renewal or reallocation project the community risks losing part of the ARD while also not guaranteeing that Bonus funds will be awarded to our community. In order to maximize the potential funding coming into the community, Bonus Projects will be ranked below renewal and reallocation projects.

Tier 2: Tie-Breaking

In the event that two projects earn the same score based on the Flint/Genesee County CoC's scoring tool, resulting in the same rank/placement on the Priority Listing, the following criteria will apply:

- First Tie-Breaker: The project emphasizes HUD priorities as outlined in the NOFO.
- Second Tie-Breaker: CoC Ratings and Ranking Committee identifies a project as a priority to meet a community-wide need based on current data (point-in-time count, needs and gaps analysis, system performance measures, e.g.)

FY2026 CoC Program NOFO

This year, approximately 40% of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand is exposed to national competition in Tier 2, with the remainder protected in Tier 1. Projects ranked in Tier 2 face competitive review by HUD and may not be funded. Therefore, the Rank and Review Team will strategically place projects to maximize overall CoC funding for the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO. Relevant factors include performance, population served, cost-effectiveness, and strategic fit.

- High-performing Permanent Housing renewals will be placed in Tier 1 where feasible to ensure the CoC retains as much funding as possible while complying with HUD requirements.
- New Transitional Housing and Supportive Services Only projects will be placed in Tier 2 when they meet local and HUD thresholds.

Governance Charter References: Article 4: Rank and Review Team