

to a person with disabilities at any location other than the location at which the information services are generally provided.

V. Application Selection Process

(A) Rating and Ranking

HUD will evaluate applications competitively and rank them against all other applicants that have applied for the PHASES-TA program.

(1) Once scores are assigned, all applications will be listed in rank order.

(2) Applications will be funded in rank order; however, HUD reserves the right to make selections out of rank order to provide for geographic distribution of its funds.

(3) HUD reserves the right to adjust funding levels for each applicant as follows:

(a) Adjust funding levels for any provider based upon the size and needs of the provider's operating service area, the funds available for that area, the number of other awardees selected in that area, funds available on a national basis for providers that will be operating nationally, or the scope of the technical assistance to be provided;

(b) To negotiate increased grant awards with applicants approved for funding if HUD requests them to offer coverage to geographic areas for which they did not apply or budget, or if HUD receives an insufficient amount of applications;

(c) If funds remain after all selections have been made, remaining funds may be made available for other HUD-administered McKinney-Vento Act program competitions.

(B) Factors for Award Used To Evaluate and Rate Applications

The factors and maximum points for each factor are provided below. The maximum number of points to be awarded for a PHASES-TA application is 100. The minimum score for an applicant to be considered in the funding range is 75, with a minimum of 15 points for Factor 1. Rating of this "applicant" or the "applicant's organization and staff," unless otherwise specified, will include any sub-contractors, consultants, sub-recipients, and members of consortia which are firmly committed to the project. When addressing the Factors for Award, applicants should discuss the specific TA projects, activities, tasks, etc., suggested to be carried out during the term of the cooperative agreement. See Sections IV(C)(2) and (3) of this NOFA for a discussion of the Demand/Response Delivery System and the TADP and the extent to which such

activities may be revised at or after time of award. In responding to the factors, applicants should be specific about the type of experience, knowledge, skills and abilities that organization, staff, and any subcontractors have with the PHASES-TA program and should provide relevant examples to support the application. Applicants should also be specific when detailing the communities, populations and/or organizations which they propose to serve, especially in response to Factor 3, Subfactor 2.

Rating Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff (25 Points) (Minimum for Funding Eligibility: 15 Points)

In rating this factor, HUD will consider the extent to which the application demonstrates, in relation to the PHASES-TA program funding that is requested:

(1) (10 points) Recent relevant and successful experience of an applicant's organization and staff in providing technical assistance in all eligible activities and to all eligible entities for the PHASES-TA program, as described in the NOFA; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate experience, preferably within the last 4 years, which describes and documents specific examples of actual past work.)

(2) (8 points) The relevant experience, including past experience in providing similar services to HUD and HUD clients, competence, knowledge, skills, and abilities of key personnel in managing complex, multi-faceted or multi-disciplinary programs that require coordination with other PHASES-TA entities or multiple, diverse units in an organization; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate the resumes of key staff, consultants, and subcontractors for their recent (within 4 years) and relevant experience in performing activities that are substantially the same as the activities covered by this NOFA, as well as clearly described and documented examples of the work.)

(3) (7 points) Sufficient personnel or access to qualified experts or professionals with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to deliver the proposed level of technical assistance in each proposed service area in a timely and effective manner; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate the resumes of key staff, consultants, and subcontractors to determine their availability to perform the work, factoring in time and geography.)

Rating Factor 2: Need/Extent of the Problem (20 Points)

In rating this factor, HUD will consider the extent to which the application:

(1) (10 points) Identifies high priority needs and issues for the PHASES-TA program; (In rating this factor, HUD will be looking for very specific needs and issues and a detailed demonstration of the applicant's knowledge of the homeless programs.)

(2) (10 points) Outlines a clear and cost-effective plan of suggested TA activities for addressing those needs and aiding a broad range of eligible grantees or potential grantees and/or beneficiaries; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate the proposed costs of the program described in the application including labor, travel, and other costs as it relates to costs for similar activities in other TA programs which HUD has undertaken.)

Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach (30 Points)

In rating this factor, HUD will consider the extent to which the application:

(1) (7 points) Provides evidence of a sound approach in addressing identified needs; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate the specific techniques and methods proposed to alleviate the needs identified in the application.)

(2) (8 points) Provides a cost-effective plan for designing, organizing, managing, and carrying out the suggested technical assistance activities within the framework of the Demand/Response System; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate how clearly the applicant spells out how it will operate under the requirements of the Demand/Response System, including: (a) How it will operate under the direction of, and respond to requests for assistance from HUD; (b) how it will handle competing demands for assistance; and (c) how it will coordinate activities. The work plan should have built-in flexibility to allow for unanticipated demands for assistance.)

(3) (10 points) Demonstrates an effective outreach and assistance program to the identified clients for the categories of assistance being proposed; (In rating this factor, HUD will evaluate whether the applicant specifically names and accurately identifies communities (meaning neighborhoods as well as localities) and/or organizations that are significantly disadvantaged and underserved by McKinney-Vento programs. HUD will also evaluate if the applicant persuasively demonstrates that the