

(9) Applicants may be part of only one consortium or submit only one application or all applications will be disqualified. HUD will hold the applicant responsible for ensuring that neither the applicant nor any part of their institution, including specific faculty, participate in more than one application.

(10) Programs must operate in an urban area. The statute creating COPC is very specific that programs address the problems of urban areas. HUD uses the Census definition of an urban area: a single geographic place (e.g., a city, town, or village, but not a county) with a population of 2,500 or more. Applicants cannot meet this test by aggregating several places smaller than the population threshold in order to meet this requirement.

(11) In order to ensure that the primary focus of the proposed project is on outreach, there is a cap on research costs that can be budgeted for this program. No more than 25 percent of the total project costs (federal share plus match) can be spent on research activities. However, applicants are not required to undertake any research as part of their project and may apply for a project that is totally outreach focused.

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

The factors for evaluating, rating, and ranking an application and the maximum points for each factor are listed below. Unless otherwise noted, New Grant applications and New Directions Grant applications will receive the same number of points on a given factor. Applications must receive a minimum of 75 out of the total possible points to be considered for funding. The maximum number of points available under this program is 102. This includes the two RC/EZ/EC bonus points as described in the General Section of this SuperNOFA.

Rating Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Experience (15 Points)

This factor addresses the extent to which the applicant has the organizational resources necessary to successfully implement the proposed activities in a timely manner. In rating this factor HUD will consider the extent to which the proposal demonstrates:

(1) Knowledge and Experience (15 Points) For New Grant Applicants. (7 Points) For New Direction Grant Applicants.

(a) The knowledge and experience of the overall proposed project director and staff, including the day-to-day program manager, consultants, and

contractors in planning and managing the kind of programs for which funding is being requested. Experience will be judged in terms of recent, relevant, and successful knowledge and skills of the staff to undertake eligible program activities. HUD will consider experience within the last 5 years to be recent; experience pertaining to the specific activities being proposed to be relevant; and experience producing specific accomplishments to be successful. The more recent and substantial the experience of the staff, particularly the institution's own staff who will work on the project have in successfully conducting and completing similar activities, the higher the number of points an applicant can receive for this rating factor. The following categories will be evaluated:

(1) Undertaking research activities in specific communities that have a clear near-term potential for practical application to significant urban issues;

(2) Undertaking outreach activities in specific communities to solve or ameliorate significant urban issues;

(3) Undertaking projects with community-based organizations or local governments; and

(4) Providing leadership in solving community problems and making national contributions to solving long-term and immediate urban problems.

(b) Past Performance (8 points). For New Directions Grants only. This subfactor will evaluate the extent to which an applicant has performed successfully under a previous COPC grant(s), as measured by:

(a) Achievement of specific measurable outcome objectives consistent with the timeline in the awarded grant proposal. Please provide a detailed list outlining those achievements as they related to the approved timeline in the awarded grant;

(b) Leveraging of funding consistent with or exceeding the funds originally proposed to be leveraged for that project. In addressing leveraging provide information that compares the proposed leveraged funds and resources with what was actually leveraged; and

(c) Full points will be awarded for performance that met the goals and objectives as outlined in the awarded grant proposal.

Rating Factor 2: Need/Extent of the Problem (10 Points)

This factor addresses the extent to which there is a need for funding the proposed program activities and an indication of the urgency of meeting the need in the target area. In evaluating this factor, the proposal will be rated on the extent to which the level of need for

the proposed activities and the importance of meeting the need are documented.

Applicants should use statistics and analyses contained in at least one or more current data sources that are sound and reliable. The data provided must be current. In rating this factor, HUD will consider data collected within the last five years to be current. To the extent that the targeted community's Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) identify the level of the problem and the urgency in meeting the need, applicants should include references to these documents in the response.

If the proposed activities are not covered under the scope of the Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), indicate such in the proposal and use other sound data sources to identify the level of need and the urgency in meeting the need. Other reliable sources of data include, but are not limited to, Census reports, HUD Continuum of Care gap analysis and its E-Map (<http://www.hud.gov/emaps>), law enforcement agency crime reports, Public Housing Authorities' Comprehensive Plan, community needs analyses such as provided by the United Way, the applicant's institution, and other sound and reliable appropriate sources. Needs in terms of fulfilling court orders or consent decrees, settlements, conciliation agreements, and voluntary compliance agreements may also be addressed.

The data used should be specific to the area where the proposed activities will be carried out. Needs should be documented as they apply to the area where the activities will be targeted, rather than the entire locality or state. Remember the statute creating COPC is very specific that the program addresses problems of an urban area: A single geographic place (e.g. a city, town, or village, but not a county) with a population of 2,500 or more.

Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach (55 Points)

This factor addresses the quality and cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan. There must be a clear relationship between the proposed activities, community needs, and purpose of the program funding for an applicant to receive points for this factor. In addition, HUD will also consider the extent to which the budget is consistent with the Work Plan and the dollars indicated on the HUD 424 form.