

Funding Availability for Universities and Colleges: Community Outreach Partnership Centers (COPC) Community Futures Demonstration

Program Overview

Purpose of the Program. The purpose of the Community Outreach Partnership Centers (COPC) Community Futures Demonstration is to provide funds to schools of architecture, planning or design at two-year colleges, four-year colleges, and universities to establish and operate Community Outreach Partnership Centers (COPCs) to:

- (1) Develop case study housing plans and designs that address community housing needs as described below; or
- (2) Develop long-range plans for local communities that address future growth and development trends in the metropolitan area or region.

Available Funds. Up to \$1.955 million from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Consolidated Appropriation Resolution for the Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program (COPC).

Additional Information

Applicants interested in applying for funds under this NOFA should carefully review the General Section of this SuperNOFA and the following additional information.

I. Application Due Date, Addresses, Submission Procedures, Further Information, and Technical Assistance

Application Due Date. A completed application package is due on or before June 24, 2003.

Address for Submitting Applications. A completed application package consists of one original signed application, three copies, and one computer disk (in Word 6.0 or higher) of the application. This package must be submitted to the following address: Processing and Control Branch, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW., Room 7251, Washington, DC 20410. When submitting an application package, also include the following information on the outside of the envelope: (a) Office of University Partnerships, (b) COPC Community Futures Demonstration Application, (c) Room number 7251, (d) applicant's name and mailing address (including zip code), and (e) applicant's telephone number (including area code).

Mailing and Receipt Procedures. Applicants must refer to the General Section of this SuperNOFA for detailed requirements governing application submission and receipt procedures.

For Further Information and Technical Assistance. Applicants may contact HUD's Office of University Partnerships staff—Armand W. Carriere at (202) 708-3061, ext. 3852 or Susan Brunson at (202) 708-3061, ext. 3181. Speech-or hearing-impaired individuals may call the Federal Information Relay Service TTY at 1 (800) 877-8399. Except for the "800" number, these numbers are not toll-free. Applicants may also reach Mr. Carriere via e-mail at Armand_W_Carriere@hud.gov and Ms. Brunson at Susan_S_Brunson@hud.gov.

Satellite Broadcast. HUD will hold an information broadcast via satellite for potential applicants to learn more about this NOFA and preparation of an application. For more information about the date and time of this broadcast, consult the HUD website at www.hud.gov.

II. Amount Allocated, Grant Size and Term, and Performance Period

The amount allocated, grant size and term, and performance period for this NOFA are listed below:

Amount Allocated. HUD will use up to \$1.955 million to fund applications from accredited colleges and universities with programs in architecture, planning or design.

Grant Size and Term. HUD will make two kinds of grants under this NOFA (1) Housing Design Grants and (2) Planning Grants.

Applicants may apply for either (1) Housing Design Grants or (2) Planning Grants as described in Section III below, but not both.

The minimum grant amount an applicant can request is \$250,000 and the maximum amount is \$400,000 for a three-year (36-month) performance period.

Funds will be awarded on a competitive basis following the review of all applications that have passed the threshold review. A technical review will be conducted for all applications that pass the threshold review to rate and rank the applications according to the rating factors described in Section VII of this NOFA. Only applications that pass the threshold review will receive a technical review and be rated and ranked. A minimum score of 75 is required for award consideration. HUD will select the highest-ranking COPC Community Futures Demonstration application among the applications receiving the minimum score of 75 points. If funding remains after all the eligible applicants are awarded, these funds will be used to make awards to additional eligible applicants under the basic Universities and Colleges Community Outreach Partnership

Centers (COPC) program, first to New Grants and then to New Directions applicants.

III. Purpose, Eligible Applicants, Program Description

(A) *Purpose.* The overall purpose of the COPC Community Futures Demonstration is to assist schools of architecture, planning and design to carry out applied research and outreach activities that address problems of urban areas and to enable them to form partnerships with local communities to address either of the urban issues described below.

COPC Community Futures awards are intended to focus on two specific urban problems that are cited in the COPC statute (housing and planning). They are also intended to further three of HUD's key Policy Priorities, as described in the General Section of the SuperNOFA:

Policy Priority A—Providing increased homeownership and rental opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons, persons with disabilities, the elderly, minorities, and families with limited English proficiency; *Policy Priority C*—Encouraging accessible design features; *Policy Priority G*—Participation in Energy Star. Finally, the awards also intend to address three of HUD's key Strategic Goals that are described in the General Section of the SuperNOFA: (1) Increasing homeownership opportunities; (2) Promoting decent affordable housing; and (3) Strengthening communities.

HUD is also interested in how the research activities undertaken with COPC funds can assist HUD in improving its programs. In the case of the Community Futures awards, HUD is interested in how the research carried out with these funds can assist HUD in improving its Consolidated Plan requirements and procedures, which are currently in the process of being simplified and improved as an element in the President's Management Agenda. An area of special interest is the use of Geographic Information System (GIS), visual simulation tools and other computer technologies to enhance citizen participation and other elements of the planning process.

(B) *Eligible Applicants.* Public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education granting two- or four-year degrees in architecture, planning or design that are accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education may apply for COPC Community Futures awards. Institutions that were previous COPC grant recipients are eligible to apply for these