

include exhibits of completed designs in suitable community locations, along with symposia, community workshops or other activities.

(13) Providing continuing architectural services during the construction of the completed design by a non-profit or for-profit developer.

(14) Conducting the required activities as described in Section V, "Program Requirements".

(B) *Planning Awards*. Eligible activities in the planning category include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Making use of visual simulation, Geographic Information Systems, and other computer modeling tools in the planning process.

(2) Preparing computer models that can simulate growth, market and investment demands as a tool for community planning and development decision-making.

(3) Identifying and utilizing HUD approved Consolidated Plans, and other community, city or regional plans that may provide useful growth-related data.

(4) Partnering with economists and market analysts to determine market demands for housing and other needs.

(5) Conducting symposia to educate local officials and residents.

(6) Working with legal and regulatory authorities to resolve legal and regulatory issues that might limit housing development or growth options for the area.

(7) Meeting and entering into agreements with local officials and community groups to establish priorities for plan implementation.

(8) Conducting focus groups, charettes or other decision-making activities that involve communities in providing input and responses to proposed designs and plans.

(9) Conducting the required activities as described in Section V, "Program Requirements".

(C) *Both Grant Categories*. In addition to eligible activities in each grant category described above, the following are eligible activities for both grant categories:

(1) Convening meetings and providing staff support for Community Advisory Boards.

(2) Incorporating relevant housing design and planning topics in the curriculum of architecture and planning schools, by offering design and planning courses and studios on relevant topics such as affordable housing, housing economics, real estate development, accessible design, energy efficient housing, and/or metropolitan growth.

(3) Stipends or salaries for students (but the program cannot cover tuition

and fees) while they are working with the COPC.

(4) Faculty development, including paying for course time or summer support to enable faculty members to work with the COPC.

(5) Leases for office space in which to house the Community Outreach Partnership Center, under the following conditions:

(a) The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction;

(b) No repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with COPC funds; and

(c) Properties in the Coastal Barrier Resource System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased with federal funds.

(6) Up to 20 percent of the grant for reasonable grant administrative activities related to planning and execution of the project (e.g., preparation/submission of HUD reports). A detailed explanation of these costs is provided in the OMB circulars that can be accessed at the White House Web site at: whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html.

VII. Ineligible Activities

(A) Activities ineligible for funding under this program are as follows:

(a) Any type of construction, rehabilitation, or other physical development. (Leveraged funds beyond the match requirements may be used for this purpose).

(b) Routine operations and day-to-day administration of institutions of higher education, local governments or neighborhood groups.

(c) Payment of court fines, judgments or fees imposed as a result of a court case or a settlement of a court case.

VIII. Application Selection Process

(A) *Two Types of Reviews*. Two types of reviews will be conducted:

(1) A threshold review to determine an application's eligibility; and

(2) A technical review based on the rating factors listed below.

Only those applications that pass the threshold review will receive a technical review and be rated and ranked.

(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 in this NOFA below. 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 the program is

102. This includes the two RC/EZ/EC bonus points as described in the General Section of the SuperNOFA.

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

This factor addresses the extent to which an applicant has the organizational resources necessary to successfully implement the proposed activities in a timely manner. The rating includes any faith-based and other community-based organizations, sub-contractors, consultants, sub-recipients and members of consortia that are firmly committed to the project. In rating this factor, HUD will consider the extent to which the proposal demonstrates 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, 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, planning, design or outreach activities in specific communities to solve or ameliorate significant urban issues;

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

(3) Experience in conducting planning or design work, including outreach to community groups, local officials and business leaders.

In addition, applicants should include information on project staff commitment to the project and position titles. Resumes of up to three pages each and position descriptions for up to three personnel (in addition to the project director and project manager) and a clearly delineated organizational chart for the project must be included.

(b) Applicants should provide their qualifications to carry out the proposed activities as evidenced by academic background, training, and/or relevant publications of project staff.