

Operation LEAP. Applications will not be rated or ranked if they do not meet the threshold requirements of the General Section of this SuperNOFA. Your application must receive at least 75 points to be eligible for funding.

V. Application Selection Process

(A) *Partial Funding.* In the selection process, once available funds have been allocated to meet the requested or negotiated amounts of the top eligible applicants, HUD reserves the right to offer any residual amount as partial funding to the next eligible applicant, provided HUD is satisfied that the residual amount is sufficient to support a viable, though reduced effort, by this applicant. If an applicant is offered a reduced grant amount, the applicant will have a maximum of 14 calendar days to accept such a reduced award and a maximum of 30 calendar days after acceptance to submit a revised strategy and budget. If the applicant fails to respond within the seven-day limit, the applicant shall be considered to have declined the award and the award will be offered to the next highest ranked applicant. HUD intends to fund the highest ranked applications within the limits of funding.

(B) *Budget.* HUD will evaluate an applicant's proposal to determine if it is reasonable, clearly justified, and consistent with the intended use of grant funds. HUD is not required to approve or fund all proposed activities. You must thoroughly document and justify all budget categories and costs. Leveraged funds should be listed in the column labeled "Applicant Match" on Form 424C.

(C) *Factors for Award Used to Evaluate and Rate Applications.* The factors for rating and ranking applicants, and maximum points for each factor, are stated below. The maximum number of points to be awarded is 100. The application must receive a total score of at least 75 points to be eligible for funding.

Rating Factor 1: Organizational Capacity (30 points)

This factor addresses the applicant's organizational capacity to successfully implement the proposed activities in a timely manner.

(A) Staff Experience (20 points)

Describe the knowledge and experience of the staff responsible for the following functions: Executive Direction; Finance Marketing; and Program Coordination. The applicant must have sufficient qualified personnel or be able to quickly retain qualified experts or professionals in financial/

grant management, marketing, and/or lead-based paint programs that will allow you to immediately begin your proposed work program and to perform your proposed activities within the two-year period of performance.

The applicant's narrative should include information about your organizational and staff capacity in fund raising and/or leveraging, and private sector recruitment successfully conducted recently (*e.g.*, within the past five years). Include a discussion of staff knowledge and expertise in fund raising, organizational skills, lead hazard control and lead-safe housing information.

The discussion on capacity should include the depth, (depth relates to the number of persons with available knowledge and expertise: range relates to the extent of that knowledge and expertise), experience, the commitment of time to the program, salary information, length of time with organization and position titles of the program staff. Resumes or detailed job announcements for the above key positions must be included as an appendix to your application. Indicate the percentage of time key personnel will devote to the proposed project. The Program Coordinator must be dedicated to this effort for a minimum of 75 percent of the time. An applicant may demonstrate capacity by thoroughly describing prior experience in this type of activity and/or how the applicant will develop the necessary capacity to carryout proposed activities.

(B) Grants Management (5 points)

Describe the agency's or organization's ability to manage grants and leveraged program funds and activities.

(C) Partner Expertise (5 points)

Describe project participants/partners knowledge and experience regarding lead poisoning as a public health threat to children, and/or lead-based paint issues and hazard control. Use of staff with more recent, relevant, and demonstrated successful experience will result in a higher rating.

Rating Factor 2: Approach (30 points)

This factor addresses the work plan strategy that the applicant intends to follow in meeting the goals and objectives of the program. This work plan strategy should address the following:

(A) Selection Process for Partner Organization (20 points)

Describe the selection process for those organizations that are to conduct

or coordinate work activities for lead hazard control, outreach, evaluation, etc. How do you intend to involve faith-based and other community-based organizations in your proposed activities?

(B) Leveraging Strategy (10 points)

Describe the proposed strategy for leveraging private sector resources including:

- (1) Target audiences/constituencies;
- (2) Use of contractors/subgrantees/partners and their method of selection;
- (3) Methods of outreach/promotion;
- (4) Types of leveraging to be employed;
- (5) Proposed use and distribution of funds/resources leveraged;
- (6) Overall project management and coordination; and
- (7) Proposed schedule of activities within the 24-month period of performance.

Although creativity and innovation are strongly encouraged, these activities must be realistic and capable of accomplishment. An applicant's award would be contingent upon budget negotiation and approval of a revised work plan. This work plan would have to describe the deliverables as goals with specific measures of achievement. For example: if an applicant proposed to use as leverage the resources from property owners who are eliminating and/or controlling lead hazards for their properties, the applicant would have to provide the number of units and an average investment amount. This information would be shown in the applicant's work plan and become part of the applicant's performance expectations.

Rating Factor 3: Leveraging Resources (35 points)

This factor addresses the applicant's ability to obtain and use private sector resources or leverage private sector activities that can be combined with HUD and other program resources to achieve program objectives. Private funds/resources do not include any public sector funds, *e.g.*, funds provided by states and units of general local government including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)/Home Investment Partnership (HOME) funds. Applicants may use such funds as part of this program but will not receive any points for use of public funds under this rating factor. Points will be awarded based on the satisfactory provision of evidence of leveraging and financial sustainability, as described above, and the ratio of requested HUD LEAP funds to the total Federal budget meets the following: