

**Questions and Answers**  
**A Supplement to the 2003 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance**  
**NOFA and Application**

To assist you in preparing your 2003 Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance application, HUD developed the following questions and answers. For your convenience, they are grouped together by topic headings.

HUD Headquarters will hold satellite training conferences to answer other questions you may have. In addition, many HUD field offices will hold training sessions on the NOFA and the application. Please contact your local HUD field office to learn more about these training opportunities. A listing of the HUD Area and State Offices is provided as an appendix to the NOFA.

**A. Major Changes for 2003**

**CONTINUUM OF CARE CHANGES:** There have been modifications to the Exhibit 1 questions, and changes to the number of points assigned to various scoring factors:

- The “Gaps and Priorities” scoring has been reduced from 20 to 15 points.
- The “Housing Emphasis” scoring has been increased from 5 to 10 points.
- There will be no points added this year for EZ/ECs.
- **Goals and System Development:** This section requests information about your performance in reaching your chronic homelessness goals and other system goals. You are also required to describe your discharge planning policy and list your continuum’s unexecuted HUD grants.
- The definition for chronic homelessness is included in the application.
- **Housing Activity Chart:** This chart includes the information used in the 2002 competition with an update for this year’s competition to reflect the changes in your housing activities. You will also include geo codes and target population codes for each facility/program.
- **Gaps Analysis:** Last year’s Gaps Analysis Chart is now two separate charts. The first chart, Housing Gaps Analysis, shows the housing gaps reflecting your current inventory and the inventory under development for this year. The second chart is the “Homeless Populations and Subpopulations Chart.” For the first time, you will be showing an estimate of the chronic homelessness population for your community.
- **Mainstream Program and Employment Chart:** This new chart uses information collected from the Annual Progress Report (APR) of renewal grantees to show how homeless participants are accessing mainstream programs.
- **Permanent Housing Bonus:** In order to encourage the development of permanent housing units, the pro rata need bonus has been increased from \$500,000 to a maximum of \$750,000 for a number one priority project that qualifies as an eligible new project. Only the housing activities of the new project count toward the bonus. Housing activities include: rental assistance, acquisition, new construction, rehabilitation, leasing, and operating costs.
- The page limit has been increased to 30 pages for Exhibit 1: Continuum of Care.