

## Project Ranking Criteria

The Decatur/Macon County CoC (IL-516) uses the **HUD Ranking Tool** as its foundation for project ratings and rankings. The complete tool is available at <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/project-rating-and-ranking-tool.xlsb>). This document provides details on the actual scoring criteria applied to the Ranking Tool for renewal projects and new projects.

When rating and ranking projects, the Ranking Committee is guided by HUD's National Objectives. HUD's National Objective for Homelessness is "to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring, while strengthening Federal, State, Tribal, and community implementation of evidence-based practices, such as Housing First, to address homelessness. and CoC priorities" (Fiscal Year 2022 – 2026 HUD Strategic Plan).

The Decatur-Macon County CoC has three local priorities:

- Improve data accuracy system-wide by increasing HMIS capacity
- Reduce length of time in emergency shelters
- Increase supply of housing for single adults

## Projects Submitted by Victim Service Providers

Restrictions are in place that protect privacy and foster safety for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking. These restrictions prohibit victim service providers from entering client data in the CoC's HMIS database. Therefore for ranking purposes, the CoC requires victim service providers to submit de-identified equivalent data from a comparable database.

In addition, projects serving victims of violence must prioritize housing safety over permanent housing. The CoC has modified the scoring scales for projects submitted by victim service providers, as shown in footnotes.

## Threshold Criteria

The CoC requires all applicants to meet the following criteria in order for their projects to be selected and ranked:

- The applicant has the demonstrated capacity to implement the project.
- The applicant is in good standing with HUD and other governmental and regulatory agencies.
- The applicant has successfully completed all required certifications and registrations and has a current and accurate Profile in e-snaps.
- The projects and activities proposed are eligible for funding under the HEARTH Act and the FY 2023 NOFO.
- The proposed project commits to full participation in Coordinated Entry and HMIS.<sup>1</sup>
- The proposed project adheres to Housing First principles and practices.

---

<sup>1</sup> Victim service providers must use a comparable database instead of the CoC's HMIS.

## Renewal Project Rating

The following criteria apply to two types of renewal projects: Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH). A Joint TH and PH-RRH project is rated using the RRH criteria.<sup>2</sup>

Renewal HMIS and Coordinated Entry (CE) projects are not subject to these criteria and are placed in Tier One.

The allocation of points is as follows:

- System Performance Measures (85 points, 45% of total score)
  - Entry to Move In (20 points)
  - Exits to PH (25 points)
  - New or Increased Income and Earned Income (40 points)
- High Need Populations (40 points, 21% of total score)
  - Vulnerabilities at project entry (30 points)
  - History of or fleeing domestic violence (10 points)
- Project Effectiveness (30 points, 16% of total score)
  - Bed Utilization (10 points)
  - Housing First (10 points)
  - Data Quality (10 points)
- Local Priority for Single Adults (10 points, 5% of total score)
- Equity Factors (25 points, 13% of total score)

**Of the 190 total points, 180 are based on objective, quantifiable data (95%).**

---

<sup>2</sup> TH = Transitional Housing

## Renewal Project Criteria

CRITERIA	Maximum Points
<p><b>1. Entry to Move in</b></p> <p>SCALE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≤20.0 days or under from project entry to move-in = 20 points</li> <li>20.1 to 35.0 days from project entry to move-in = 15 points</li> <li>35.1 to 65.0 days from project entry to move-in = 10 points</li> <li>65.1 to 90.0 days from project entry to move-in = 5 points</li> <li>Over 90.0 days from project entry to move-in = 0 points</li> </ul> <p>SOURCE: Q22c<sup>3</sup></p>	20
<p><b>2. Exits to Permanent Housing</b></p> <p>SCALE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100.0% exiting to or remaining in permanent housing = 25 points</li> <li>90.0% to 99.9% exiting to or remaining in permanent housing = 20 points</li> <li>80.0% to 89.9% exiting to or remaining in permanent housing = 15 points</li> <li>70.0% to 79.9% exiting to or remaining in permanent housing = 10 points</li> <li>60.0% to 69.9% exiting to or remaining in permanent housing = 5 points</li> <li>Under 60.0% exiting to or remaining in permanent housing = 0 points</li> </ul> <p>SOURCE: Q05a and Q23c (On Q23c, including Institutions as positive exits)</p>	25
<p><b>3. New or Increased Income and Earned Income</b></p> <p>SCALE: Up to 10 points in each of four income categories (Stayers Earned; Stayers Nonemployment; Leavers Earned; Leavers Nonemployment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90.0% to 100.0% with gains = 10 points</li> <li>80.0% to 89.9% with gains = 8 points</li> <li>60.0% to 79.9% with gains = 6 points</li> <li>40.0% to 59.9% with gains = 4 points</li> <li>20.0% to 39.9% with gains = 2 points</li> <li>Under 20.0% with gains = 0 points</li> </ul> <p>SOURCE: Q19a1 and Q19a2, Line 5</p>	40
<p><b>4. Vulnerabilities at Project Entry</b></p> <p>SCALE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥45.0% of adults with zero income at entry = 10 points               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23.0%-44.9% of adults with zero income at entry = 5 points</li> <li>Under 23.0% of adults with zero income at entry = 0 points</li> </ul> </li> <li>≥65.0% of adults with multiple barriers at entry = 10 points               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25.0% to 64.9% of adults with multiple barriers at entry = 5 points</li> <li>Under 25.0% of adults with multiple barriers at entry = 0 points</li> </ul> </li> <li>≥50.0% of adults entering project from places unfit for human habitation = 10 points               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25.0% to 49.9% of adults entering project from places unfit for human habitation = 5 points</li> <li>Under 25.0% of adults entering project from places unfit for human habitation = 0 points</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>SOURCE: Q05, Q16, Q 13a2, Q15</p>	30

<sup>3</sup> Refers to item in Sage report for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. **Victim Service Providers must submit data from an equivalent database.**

CRITERIA	Maximum Points
<p><b>5. History of or Fleeing Domestic Violence</b></p> <p>SCALE:            ≥90.0% to 100% fleeing domestic violence or with history of domestic violence = 10 points            20.0% to 89.9% fleeing domestic violence or with history of domestic violence = 5 points            SOURCE: Q05, Q14a, Q14b</p>	10
<p><b>6. Bed Utilization</b></p> <p>SCALE:            ≥90.0% of beds utilized on average over 12 months = 10 points            50.0% to 89.9% of beds utilized on average over 12 months = 5 points            SOURCE: Q7b, Housing Inventory Count</p>	10
<p><b>7. Housing First</b></p> <p>SCALE: Scores on Housing First Self-Assessment Tool            100% = 10 points            95.0% to 99.9% = 8 points            90.0% to 94.9% = 6 points            85.0% to 89.9% = 4 points            80.0% to 84.9% = 2 points            Under 80.0% = 0 points            SOURCE: Housing First Self-Assessment score</p>	10
<p><b>8. Data Quality</b></p> <p>SCALE:            0.0% error rate = 10 points            &gt;0.0% but ≤1.0% error rate = 5 points            SOURCE: Q05, Q06a (less column 1), Q06b, Q06c</p>	10
<p><b>9. Local Priority for Single Adults</b></p> <p>SCALE:            90.0% to 100.0% of beds devoted to single adults = 10 points            20.0% to 89.9% of beds devoted to single adults = 5 points            SOURCE: 2021 Housing Inventory Count</p>	10
<p><b>10. Racial Equity</b></p> <p>SCALE:            5 points if grantee has underrepresented individuals (BIPOC, LGBTQ+ etc.) persons in leadership            5 points if grantee’s board includes at least one person with lived experience            5 points if grantee disaggregates programmatic data by race, ethnicity, gender identity or age            5 points if grantee has assessed inequities in participation and outcomes            5 points if grantee has taken or will take specific steps to make program more equitable            SOURCE: Equity Questionnaire</p>	25
<b>MAXIMUM TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>190</b>

## New Project Rating

Generally, new projects will be ranked below renewals. However, if the CoC determines that there is a critical need for a certain type of project, the committee may rank that project above renewals if the situation warrants doing so.

These rating criteria apply to all new projects except HMIS expansion and Coordinated Entry expansion. The Ranking Committee reserves the right to place HMIS and CE projects in Tier One or Tier Two based on the needs of the entire system.

The allocation of points is as follows:

- System Performance Measures (45 points, 26% of total score)
  - Exits to PH (15 points)
  - New or Increased Income and Earned Income (15 points)
  - Returns to Homelessness (15 points)
- High Need Populations (20 points, 12% of total score)
  - Vulnerabilities at project entry (10 points)
  - History of or fleeing domestic violence (10 points)
- Project Effectiveness (20 points, 12% of total score)
  - Housing First (10 points)
  - Data Security (10 points)
- Local Priority for Single Adults (20 points, 12% of total score)
- Equity Factors (25 points, 15% of total score)
- HUD Bonus (40 points, 24% of score)

**Of the 170 total points, 115 are based on objective, quantifiable data (68%).**

## New Project Criteria

CRITERIA	Maximum Points
<p><b>1. System Performance Measures</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: Capacity of project to improve the CoC's System Performance Measures (SPMs)</p> <p>CALCULATION: This measure looks at three SPMs where a project can make a substantial impact on the overall system performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Exits to PH (Placement and/or retention of permanent housing)<sup>4</sup></li> <li>● New or Increased Income and Earned Income</li> <li>● Returns to homelessness after exiting the project</li> </ul> <p>SCALE: Each SPM is worth a maximum of 15 points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Projects receive 5 points for mentioning in their Project Application that they have a plan to help participants improve that measure.</li> <li>● Projects can receive up to 10 points for the quality of the plan, taking into consideration three factors: the applicant's past experience, details of the plan, and impact on SPM.</li> </ul> <p>SOURCE: Project Application</p>	45
<p><b>2. High Need Populations</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: Anticipated participants with high barriers and/or domestic violence.</p> <p>CALCULATION: Project commits to serving persons with severe disabilities (mental illness, substance use disorder, HIV/AIDS, physical disability, intellectual disability).</p> <p>SCALE: Projects serving 3 or more disability groups = 10 points Projects with 2 disability groups = 7 points Projects with 1 disability group = 5 points Projects with 0 disability groups = 0 points</p> <p>CALCULATION: Percentage of anticipated participants who are fleeing domestic violence (including sexual assault, dating violence, trafficking, and stalking)</p> <p>SCALE: Projects with 100% =10 points Projects with 60.0% to 99.9% = 6 points Projects with 10.0% to 59.9% = 3 points Projects with less than 10.0% = 0 points</p> <p>SOURCE: Project Application</p>	20

<sup>4</sup> For projects submitted by victim service providers, replace "permanent housing" with "safe housing."

CRITERIA	Maximum Points
<p><b>3. Housing First</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: Housing First Self-Assessment score</p> <p>SCALE: Scores on Housing First Self-Assessment Tool  100% = 10 points  95.0% to 99.9% = 8 points  90.0% to 94.9% = 6 points  85.0% to 89.9% = 4 points  80.0% to 84.9% = 2 points  Under 80.0% = 0 points</p> <p>SOURCE: Housing First Self-Assessment score</p>	10
<p><b>4. Data Security</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: Security measures to protect client data</p> <p>CALCULATION:  Completion of HMIS security checklist.</p> <p>SCALE:  Follow all 3 core elements plus all 6 advanced elements = 10 points  Follow all 3 core elements plus 3-5 advanced elements = 7 points  Follow all 3 core elements and 1-2 advanced elements = 5 points  Follow all 3 core elements and 0 advanced elements = 3 points  Does not follow all 3 core elements = 0 points</p> <p>SOURCE: HMIS Questionnaire</p>	10
<p><b>5. Local Priority Projects</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: Incentives for projects that provide permanent housing for single adults.</p> <p>SCALE:  90.0%-100% of total beds projected for single adults = 20 points  20.0%-89.9% of total beds projected for single adults = 10 points</p> <p>SOURCE: Project application</p>	20
<p><b>6. Racial Equity</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: As reported by grantees</p> <p>SCALE:  5 points if grantee has underrepresented individuals (BIPOC, LGBTQ+ etc.) persons in leadership  5 points if grantee's board includes at least one person with lived experience  5 points if grantee disaggregates programmatic data by race, ethnicity, gender identity or age  5 points if grantee has assessed inequities in participation and outcomes  5 points if grantee has taken or will take specific steps to make program more equitable</p> <p>SOURCE: Equity Questionnaire</p>	25

CRITERIA	Maximum Points
<p><b>7. HUD Bonus</b></p> <p>HOW MEASURED: Ability of project to qualify the CoC for FY 2023 HUD Bonus Points</p> <p>SCALE:  Qualify for Housing Bonus = 20 points  Qualify for Healthcare Bonus = 20 points</p> <p>SOURCE: Project Application</p>	<p>40</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>MAXIMUM TOTAL POINTS</b></p>	<p><b>170</b></p>

**Renewal Projects with Less than 12 Months History**

Newly funded renewal projects that have been under contract for less than 12 months cannot be ranked using the above criteria. In order to give them the opportunity to develop a track record, these projects will be ranked in Tier One as the last-ranked fully funded projects.