

U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Fair Housing Initiatives Program - Education and Outreach Initiative

OFH-2600-DC-021A

Applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on 01/01/2027.

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. BASIC INFORMATION 5
A. Summary 5
B. Agency Contact(s) 8
II. ELIGIBILITY 10
A. Eligible Applicants 10
B. Eligible Applications 11
C. Cost Sharing or Matching 14
III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION 16
A. Purpose 16
B. Goals and Objectives 20
C. Authority 22
D. Unallowable Costs 22
E. Indirect Costs 23
IV. APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT 32
A. Standard Forms, Assurances, and Certifications 32
B. Budget 33
C. Narratives and Other Attachments 34
D. Other Application Content 35
V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION 38
A. Threshold Review 38
B. Merit Review 39
C. Risk Review 47
D. Selection Process 48
E. Award Notices 50
VI. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES 53
A. Deadlines 53
B. Submission Methods 53
C. Other Submission Information 54
D. False Statements 54
VII. POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION 58
A. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements, and General Terms and Conditions 58
B. Environmental Requirements 60
C. Remedies for Noncompliance 60
D. Reporting 61
VIII. CONTACT AND SUPPORT 67
A. Agency Contact 67
B. Grants.gov 67
C. SAM.gov 67
D. Debriefing 67
E. Applicant Experience Survey 68
F. Other Online Resources 68
APPENDIX 70
Appendix I. Definitions 70

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If you are a good candidate for this funding opportunity, register in the required systems and review the application materials. If you are already registered, confirm that your information is current and active.

SAM.gov Registration

You must have an active and up-to-date account with SAM.gov, at the time of application and throughout the life of any award.

To register, go to SAM.gov Entity Registration and click Get Started. From the same page, you can also click the Entity Registration Checklist for the information you will need to register.

It can take several weeks to register in SAM.gov, so get started now if you are planning to apply. SAM.gov also provides each organization with a unique entity identifier (UEI). A valid UEI is required to apply for funding.

Grants.gov Registration

You must have an active Grants.gov registration. This requires a Login.gov registration as well. See step-by-step instructions at the Grants.gov Quick Start Guide for Applicants. You must apply for funding using Grants.gov, unless HUD has approved your waiver request.

See Section VI.B. Submission Methods.

Find the Application Package

Use the Grants Search at Grants.gov and search for opportunity number OFH-2600-DC-021A . The application package has all the online forms you need to apply. You also need to access the Download Instructions link and review the content before you apply.

If you have other technical difficulties using Grants.gov, contact the Support Center on Grants.gov.

To get updates on changes to this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO), click Subscribe from the View Grant Opportunity page on Grants.gov.

Application Deadline
Applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on 01/01/2027.

HUD Listserv
To get **email alerts** about current and future funding opportunities, **subscribe** to HUD's Funding Opportunities listserv.

I. BASIC INFORMATION

I. Basic Information

A. Summary

B. Agency Contact(s)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. BASIC INFORMATION

See Contact and Support section of this NOFO.

A. Summary

Federal Agency Name:
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD Program Office:

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

Announcement Type:

Initial

Program Type:

Discretionary

Paperwork Reduction Act Information:

2501-0044, 2529-0033

Due Date for Intergovernmental Review:

See Section VI.C.1.

Key Facts

Opportunity Name:
Fair Housing Initiatives Program - Education and Outreach Initiative

Opportunity Number:
OFH-2600-DC-021A

Federal Assistance Listing(s):
14.416

Key Dates

Application Due Date: 11:59:59 PM Eastern Time on:
01/01/2027

Anticipated Award Date:
02/28/2027

Estimated Performance Period Start Date:
07/01/2027

Estimated Performance Period End Date:
06/30/2028

1. NOFO Summary

The **FHIP Education and Outreach Initiative** (EOI) provides competitive awards to eligible nonprofit and other fair housing organizations to develop and carry out coordinated education and outreach efforts and media products to inform individuals, communities, housing

providers and other stakeholders about their fair housing rights and obligations under the Fair Housing Act.

This EOI NOFO includes two components:

National: EOI National Media Campaign Component (EOI-NMC)

Local/Community Based: EOI General Component (EOI-G)

EOI is one of several initiatives of the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP).

FHEO will sponsor applicant training in furtherance of Executive Order 14332, to increase potential applicant understanding of the federal grant application process and of the Fair Housing Initiatives Program with the goal of expanding the applicant pool so that discretionary grants might be awarded to a broad range of eligible recipients.

2. Funding Details

Type of Funding Instrument

G (Grant)

National Media Campaign awards made under this NOFO will be in the form of a cooperative agreement.

Under a cooperative agreement, HUD will exercise the right to approve, and have substantial involvement in, all proposed deliverables, as well as the Work Plan or Statement of Work (SOW).

Where HUD determines that substantial Federal involvement is appropriate, awards may be administered as cooperative agreements. Substantial involvement may include: collaborative project planning; technical consultation; review of significant deliverables; coordination of national initiatives; dissemination of project deliverables; other activities identified in the cooperative agreement. The nature and extent of HUD Participation will be described in the award agreement.

EOI-General Component awards made under this NOFO will be in the form of grant agreements.

Available Funds

Funding of approximately **$10,750,000** is available through this NOFO.

Additional funds may become available for award. Use of these funds is subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the selection process contained in this NOFO.

Estimated Number of Awards

34 awards from available funding

FHEO expects to make approximately 1 award from the EOI-NMC.

Maximum EOI-NMC award amount is $2,500,000. Minimum EOI-NMC award amount is $1,000,000.

FHEO expects to make approximately 33 awards from the EOI-G.

Maximum EOI-G award amount is $250,000. Minimum EOI-G award amount is $175,000.

Length of Performance Period:

12-month project period and budget period

Length of Periods Explanation:

For EOI awards, the proposed project period and budget period can be in the range of 12 to 18 months. The final period of performance for each application selected for an award will be determined and approved by HUD during award negotiations; all funds must be expended within the specific timeframes established in negotiations.

National: EOI National Media Campaign Component (EOI-NMC)

If selected as an awardee, you will coordinate and deploy a national fair housing media campaign by developing, disseminating, and leveraging creative and innovative fair housing education and outreach materials and communications strategies tailored to the needs of all Americans. You will do this by creating practical strategies, tools, and media that build the knowledge, skill, and capacity of all fair housing stakeholders to comply with fair housing obligations and the public to understand their fair housing rights and how to file a complaint when they believe their rights are violated. The national fair housing media campaign will focus on addressing intentional discrimination and barriers that may arise when people exercise their right to expand housing choice, to include all protected characteristics. The campaign will also focus on educating all stakeholders (to include fair housing practitioners, housing providers, industry, and the public) about the forms of discrimination that can occur in real estate related transactions. The campaign must provide general and specific fair housing education and outreach strategies, tools, and media for HUD's fair housing stakeholders and include information about how to overcome housing discrimination, including by filing a housing discrimination complaint with HUD. A major focus of the campaign is to create a communications strategy (based on existing local needs and leveraging existing and new education and outreach strategies) with supporting messaging and materials for HUD's fair housing stakeholders to utilize during National Fair Housing Month, and for HUD-funded EOI-G grantees to strategically use in their education and outreach initiative efforts throughout the year. All materials produced by the campaign must be easily localizable for use by other FHIP grantees and fair housing organizations.

Regional/Local/Community Based: EOI General Component (EOI-G)

This component provides funding for general fair housing education and outreach activities to inform HUD fair housing stakeholders (including housing providers, industry, and the public) of their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act. If selected as a grantee, you will carry out regional, local, and/or community-based education and outreach activities designed to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices, including through school, religious organization, housing provider, industry, and community presentations, conferences and other educational activities. Further, if selected as a grantee, the education and outreach activities that you deploy should fully harness the National Media Campaign which will allow you to understand, harness, and locally replicate education and outreach best practices from across the nation. All grant funded related media and any related collateral for outreach must have HUD approval before public release.

B. Agency Contact(s)

See Contact and Support section of this NOFO.

II. ELIGIBILITY

II. Eligibility

A. Eligible Applicants

B. Eligible Applications

C. Cost Sharing or Matching

TABLE OF CONTENTS

II. ELIGIBILITY

A. Eligible Applicants

If your organization is not an eligible applicant, your application won't be reviewed or scored, and you won't receive funding from HUD.

1. Eligible Entity Types:

25 (Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification))

Additional Information on Eligibility

You cannot apply as an individual.

Faith-based organizations may apply just like any other organization. HUD does not have any policies or practices that unfairly target these institutions.

If you are applying with other organizations (co-applicants or members of a consortium), the lead organization needs to meet all eligibility requirements. If not, your application is not eligible for funding. All Applicants are required to complete and submit the Applicant Certification (Appendix B) with their application. Co-applicants or consortium members must sign the grant agreement.

a. Eligible Entities for Each EOI Component

National Media Campaign Component (EOI-NMC):

- Qualified Fair Housing Enforcement Organizations,
- Fair Housing Enforcement Organization, and
- Other nonprofit organizations representing groups of persons protected under the Fair Housing Act (which might include public interest litigation firms, religious liberty groups, trade associations, etc.).

Experience Requirement: in order to be selected for an award under the National Media Campaign component, your organization **must** have at least 5 years of experience as an advertising, media or public relations organization with strong understanding of adult learning theory, instructional design, and design thinking; **or must** have a partnership with an advertising and media services organization with at least 5 years of experience as an advertising, media or public relations organization with strong understanding of adult learning theory, instructional design, and design thinking. You will indicate your experience requirement in the Applicant Certification (Appendix B).

General Component (EOI-G)

- Qualified Fair Housing Enforcement Organizations,
- Fair Housing Enforcement Organizations,
- Other nonprofit organizations representing groups of persons protected under the Fair Housing Act
- Agencies that participate in the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP)

- Other agencies of State or local governments
- Other public or private entities that are formulating or carrying out programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices (which might include public interest litigation firms, religious liberty groups, trade associations, etc.).

2. Restrictions

a. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

You must meet the current General Statutory and Regulatory Eligibility Requirements. If you do not meet these requirements, your application won't be scored, and you won't receive funding from HUD. This is a threshold requirement for all HUD funding.

b. Resolution of Civil Rights Matters

If you have any outstanding or unresolved judgments for violating civil rights laws, you must settle them before you apply. If you don't, settle the civil rights law violations before you apply, your application won't be scored, and you won't receive funding from HUD. This is a threshold requirement for all HUD funding.

Applicants with outstanding, unresolved matters or judgments against them for violations of civil rights laws must resolve those judgments before the application submission deadline or the applicant will be deemed ineligible. (1) An applicant is ineligible for funding if the applicant has received notice of a judgment imposed against them for violations of: (a) the Fair Housing Act or a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing law for discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status; or (b) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act, or the Violence Against Women Act or substantially equivalent state or local laws. (2) HUD will determine if actions to resolve the judgment taken before the application deadline date will resolve the matter. Examples of actions that may be sufficient to I. Basic Information II. Eligibility III. Program Description IV. Application Contents and Format V. Application Review Information VI. Submission Requirements and Deadlines VII. Post-Award Requirements and Administration VIII. Contact and Support Appendix II. Eligibility CPD-2600-DC-0025 Page 11 of 128 resolve the matter include, but are not limited to: (a) Current compliance with a voluntary compliance agreement signed by all the parties; (b) Current compliance with a HUD-approved conciliation agreement signed by all the parties; (c) Current compliance with a conciliation agreement signed by all the parties and approved by the state governmental or local administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter; (d) Current compliance with a consent order or consent decree; or (e) Current compliance with a final judicial ruling or administrative ruling or decision. Applicants with unresolved civil rights matters at the application deadline are deemed ineligible.

B. Eligible Applications

1. An application from an eligible entity is considered for funding if it meets basic threshold requirements and passes merit review.

2. Your application must support the goals of this NOFO.

3. Awards made under this NOFO will not be used to conduct activities that subsidize or facilitate illegal racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination, including activities where race or intentional proxies for race will be used as a selection criterion for employment or program participation.

Your application will be considered for funding if it satisfies the application review requirements in Section V. of this NOFO.

4. Current or Pending Tax-Exempt Organizations.

If you apply as a nonprofit organization, your organization must be a tax-exempt organization or have a tax-exempt application pending prior to the application deadline date and are you must maintain tax exempt status throughout the period of performance. Applications must include the IRS report showing tax exempt status or pending application status. See *Application Contents*, Section IV.A.

If you apply as a nonprofit organization and have a pending tax-exempt application/renewal and are selected for an award, your application/renewal must be approved prior to release of funding. If the pending application is denied, HUD will rescind award selection.

5. Applicant cannot have a parent or affiliate/subsidiary that is also an EOI recipient.

HUD will not fund an organization if the parent or its affiliate/subsidiary organization has an open grant (previously funded) under the same EOI component with overlapping grant periods of performance; nor will HUD fund both a parent organization and its affiliate/subsidiary organization under this NOFO for the same component.

Also, HUD does not allow affiliate and parent organization staff sharing protocols whereby the parent organization shares key staff with an affiliate(s). All funded organizations must be fully independent functional organizations, *e.g.*, able to conduct business on an on-going basis without support from the parent organization or its staff to complete proposed program activities, and set apart from parent organization.

6. Applicant cannot have received a "poor (unsatisfactory)" rating on its performance assessment on any prior FHIP grant within the past five years.

If your organization received a "poor (unsatisfactory)" rating on any performance assessment on any prior FHIP grant within the past five (5) years, the organization is ineligible for funding for a period of five (5) years from the date of the performance assessment. However, if the organization provides evidence that the rating was overturned by FHEO or that another resolution was accepted by FHEO to improve future performance, HUD may reconsider your eligibility.

Additionally, if your organization receives a "poor (unsatisfactory)" performance rating on another FHIP grant after being selected for an award or after receipt of funding under this NOFO, HUD will rescind all remaining grant funds awarded/received under this NOFO, and the organization will remain ineligible for funding for a period of five years, unless it provides evidence as stated above.

For state and local agencies that administer fair housing laws that are part of HUD's Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) organizations, HUD may similarly consider

Performance Assessment Reports under its cooperative agreement, as well as any other relevant past performance (i.e., partnership grant performance).

7. FHAP Agencies Only. Cannot be under suspension or performance improvement plan under 24 CFR 115.201(a) and (b).

8. **Activities.** Your application must meet the following requirements:

a. Fair Housing Related Activities. All program activities and costs within the Statement of Work (SOW) and budget must be fair housing related activities and must demonstrate an explicit connection to the non-discrimination provisions of the Fair Housing Act, and/or State or local laws with equivalent rights and remedies.
b. Fair Housing Act Protected Characteristics. All FHIP-funded projects must address housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin.

9. **Funding Request Within the Award Limits.** Applicants are ineligible for funding if the amount requested in the application is not within the minimum and maximum award limits, unless HUD determines that the error is a minor error (such as a typographical error) and that the application clearly requests a funding amount within the award limits.

10. **Inconsistencies in the Requested Amount.** If inconsistent amounts are requested in an application selected for an award, the amount on the SF-424 will be deemed the controlling amount for purposes of determining eligibility and the award amount.

11. **Rating Factors.** An application that does not include a narrative response to each of the four Rating Factors will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed.

12. **Operating Budget.**. In order to ensure funding supports sustainable fair housing partnerships, and consistent with the requirements of 42 USC 3616a(c)(1), FHIP funding may not provide more than 50% of the operating budget of the recipient organization for any one year.

13. **Other Program Eligibility Requirements**

i. You must submit a separate application for each component and/or initiative for which you apply.

ii. Cannot receive more than one award under a single component. This restriction includes two organizations with separate EINs that apply for separate funding under a single component but identify more than one of the same direct personnel and/or key staff for both organizations (i.e., key staff sharing). HUD will fund only one organization. This restriction ensures FHIP's commitment to continued program integrity by eliminating double payments under a single component to an organization or individuals. This restriction includes but is not limited to any organization affiliate, associate, subsidiary, or other organizations that engage in direct personnel and/or key staff sharing protocols.

In addition, an organization that is selected to receive an EOI-NMC award may not receive another EOI award but may receive awards under the AEI, PEI and/or FHOI NOFOs provided the organization meets all requirements outlined in the NOFO.

14. Ineligible Applicants HUD will not evaluate applications from ineligible applicants,

including those that do not meet the *threshold review requirements* (V. A), *eligible entity requirements* (II. A. 1.), and *statutory and regulatory requirements* (II. A. 2.).

C. Cost Sharing or Matching

This Program does not require cost sharing or matching.

If your application project and budget include cost sharing or matching, you will be required to provide those proposed funds if selected for an award, or the award will be rescinded. In accordance with Section V. B. 1. Rating Factor 1, applicants that can demonstrate diversified funding resources will receive higher scores for this factor.

III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

III. Program Description

A. Purpose

B. Goals and Objectives

C. Authority

D. Unallowable Costs

E. Indirect Costs

TABLE OF CONTENTS

III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Purpose

Congress in 1988 established the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) with a purpose of providing funding to entities to work alongside HUD to "prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices" 42 USC § 3616a(a). Congress determined in 1987, and affirmed each year since then through appropriations, that HUD can only achieve its fair housing mission and obligations by supporting a network of organizations helping to educate the public about and enforce fair housing rights. Initially a demonstration program, Congress made it permanent through the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992. The program was expanded in 1992 to address building capacity in unserved areas, establish a national media campaign, and fund a National Fair Housing Month. FHIP provides funds to eligible organizations through competitive grants under several initiatives.

FHIP provides funds to eligible State or local governments or their agencies, public or private nonprofit organizations or institutions, or other public or private entities through competitive grants under four initiatives: the Fair Housing Organizations Initiative (FHOI), the Private Enforcement Initiative (PEI), the Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI), and the Administrative Enforcement Initiative (AEI).

The overarching purpose of the **FHIP Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI)** is to educate the public, housing providers and other stakeholders about their rights and obligations under provisions of fair housing laws, through the development, implementation, carrying out or coordinating education and outreach programs. 42 USC § 3616a(d)(1); 24 CFR 125.301(a).

The Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI) is the public education, outreach, and fair housing awareness component of the Fair Housing Initiatives Program. Its purpose is to inform individuals, communities, housing providers, industry participants, and other stakeholders of rights and obligations under the Fair Housing Act.

EOI supports national, regional, local, and community-based education and outreach activities that prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices by improving public understanding, encouraging voluntary compliance, and connecting individuals with information about how to seek assistance or file fair housing complaints.

HUD has reviewed recent FHIP administration, program performance, appropriations requirements, and current fair housing needs. Based on that review, this NOFO emphasizes competition, measurable outcomes, coordination, fiscal accountability, and education and outreach activities that directly advance the purposes of the Fair Housing Act.

A. Program Overview

Through annual Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs), HUD administers FHIP by investing in activities that complement the Department's own fair housing responsibilities and strengthen the Nation's fair housing infrastructure.

The **Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI)** is HUD's strategic communications investment program for expanding public understanding of fair housing rights and responsibilities and strengthening the Nation's fair housing education infrastructure.

EOI supports projects that increase awareness of rights and obligations under the Fair Housing Act, promote voluntary compliance, improve access to accurate fair housing information, and encourage early recognition and prevention of discriminatory housing practices. The initiative also seeks to strengthen the long-term capacity of organizations that provide fair housing education and outreach by fostering innovation, strategic partnerships, and sustainable educational resources.

The Department recognizes that effective fair housing education is an essential component of national fair housing policy. Education and outreach improve public understanding of the law, reduce barriers to housing opportunities, encourage voluntary compliance, and complement enforcement activities by helping individuals, housing providers, lenders, real estate professionals, local governments, and community organizations understand their rights and responsibilities before disputes arise.

The National Media Campaign component (EOI-NMC) is "designed to provide a centralized, coordinated effort for the development and dissemination of fair housing media products." 42 USC § 3616a(d)(1). A portion of NMC funds are specifically meant to increase participation in the annual national fair housing month.

The General Component (EOI-GC) is designed to carry out projects that prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices by establishing or supporting regional, local, and community-based education and outreach activities, events, and programs.

B. Statutory and Regulatory Authority

The Education and Outreach Initiative is administered pursuant to:

- Section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. § 3616a);
- The Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 3601–3619);
- 24 CFR Part 125;
- Applicable annual appropriations acts;
- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200), as adopted by HUD.

Nothing in this NOFO modifies or supersedes applicable statutory or regulatory requirements. Rather, this NOFO identifies the funding priorities, eligible activities, evaluation criteria, and administrative procedures that HUD will apply in administering the FY2025/FY2026 Education and Outreach Initiative competition.

C. Continuing Evolution of FHIP

HUD has historically administered the Fair Housing Initiatives Program through annual funding announcements that identify program priorities consistent with the Fair Housing Act, implementing regulations, and available appropriations. Over time, these annual competitions

have introduced new funding components, expanded eligible activities, encouraged interdisciplinary partnerships, supported emerging fair housing issues, and refined administrative approaches based on experience gained through program implementation.

Historical evaluations of FHIP demonstrate that administrative refinement has been a recurring feature of the program while the underlying statutory and regulatory framework have remained stable. The Department views this FY2026 competition as a continuation of this longstanding practice of administrative improvement.

Accordingly, applicants should understand that this NOFO is intended to implement, **not modify,** the statutory purposes of FHIP by identifying those investments that HUD has determined are most likely to advance fair housing education and outreach during the current funding cycle.

D. Continuing Evolution of the Education and Outreach Initiative

Since the establishment of FHIP, the EOI has served as HUD's principal mechanism for promoting voluntary compliance with the Fair Housing Act through public education, outreach, and communications.

Although the statutory purpose of EOI has remained consistent, HUD has periodically refined the initiative through annual funding announcements to respond to evolving fair housing challenges, advances in communications practices, emerging underserved populations, and lessons learned through program administration.

Historically, HUD has employed a variety of administrative approaches to strengthen education and outreach activities, including specialized funding components, targeted educational initiatives, strategic partnerships, accessibility initiatives, and collaborations with organizations possessing complementary expertise. The Department's 2011 evaluation of the Fair Housing Initiatives Program documents this pattern of administrative evolution and identifies numerous refinements implemented through annual NOFOs, including the FY 2005 Minority-Serving Institutions component, which encouraged partnerships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The FY2026 competition continues this historical refining practice to identify funding priorities intended to strengthen fair housing education.

E. Strategic Communications Framework

HUD administers the Education and Outreach Initiative as an integrated portfolio of complementary investments designed to improve public understanding of fair housing and strengthen the Nation's fair housing education infrastructure.

The Department recognizes that effective education requires a combination of locally tailored outreach, nationally scalable communications, partnerships with organizations possessing complementary expertise, accessible educational materials, and sustained public engagement. Accordingly, funding under this NOFO is allocated among components that collectively support these objectives.

Differences in funding levels among components reflect the differing communications strategies, anticipated project scope, expected public reach, and level of investment reasonably necessary to achieve meaningful and sustainable educational outcomes. Funding allocations should not be interpreted as reflecting the relative importance of one objective over another. Rather, they represent HUD's administrative judgment regarding the most effective distribution of available resources to strengthen fair housing education nationwide.

F. Relationship to Other FHIP Initiatives

The Education and Outreach Initiative complements the other initiatives administered under FHIP.

- **FHOI** strengthens the organizational capacity of the private fair housing infrastructure.
- **EOI** expands public understanding of fair housing rights and responsibilities through education and communications.
- **PEI** supports private investigation, testing, conciliation, and enforcement activities.
- **AEI** strengthens administrative enforcement systems and governmental capacity.

Together, these initiatives form an integrated framework through which HUD advances the purposes of the Fair Housing Act by combining education, organizational development, private enforcement, and administrative enforcement into a coordinated national strategy.

This NOFO implements the Education and Outreach Initiative authority reflected in 24 CFR Part 125 by identifying current education, outreach, media, and public-awareness priorities. Unless expressly stated, this NOFO should be interpreted as implementing existing EOI authority rather than establishing new categories of activity.

The National Media Campaign component (EOI-NMC) is "designed to provide a centralized, coordinated effort for the development and dissemination of fair housing media products." 42 USC § 3616a(d)(1). A portion of NMC funds are specifically meant to increase participation in the annual national fair housing month.

Under a cooperative agreement, HUD will exercise the right to approve, and have substantial involvement in, all proposed deliverables, as well as the Work Plan or Statement of Work (SOW).

The General Component (EOI-GC) is designed to carry out projects that prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices by establishing or supporting regional, local, and community-based education and outreach activities, events, and programs.

For all grants and cooperative agreements, HUD will conduct monitoring reviews, request quarterly reports, and approve all proposed deliverables as documented in the applicant's Work Plan or SOW. Most EOI funds are awarded under grant agreements. However, national funds, and in this case funds for the National Media Campaign, are awarded under cooperative agreements managed by Headquarters since the awards have a nationwide impact and therefore require more complex and frequent oversight as well as Departmental

approval of deliverables.

B. Goals and Objectives

HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO), and by extension, the FHIP program, is returning to the core of the Fair Housing Act's enforcement regime – protecting individuals from intentional discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or familial status. FHEO rejects expansive interpretations of the Fair Housing Act that exceed the statutory text; will eliminate from the FHIP program ideologically driven enforcement priorities that do not serve Americans experiencing actual discrimination; and will ensure equal treatment under the law regardless of race – including through enforcement against government programs that promote or engage in illegal forms of discrimination. By restoring the FHIP program to its original goals, HUD will focus enforcement resources on cases of intentional discrimination that are causing real harm to real people and ensure that all American's rights to fair housing access are protected.

Implementation of activities unsupported by original FHIP program goals resulted in FHEO not fully meeting its intended goals, leading to waste of taxpayer dollars, and too often the production of low-quality, redundant deliverables. This was reflected in the conclusions in the Office of Inspector General report, dated September 24, 2024, that found that the prior administration left a backlog of unresolved cases and failed to comply with its statutory obligations. FHEO has found that in part this was due to a lack of prioritization for actual intentional cases of discrimination. This backlog reflected HUD's priorities that were passed on to the FHIPs programs and grant awards. (FHEO Faces Challenges in Completing Investigations Within 100 Days | Office of Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development.)

In addition, the manner in which HUD historically administered the FHIP program created an expectation that FHIP funding would be awarded in a manner akin to formula-based funding to largely the same list of agencies rather than through a truly competitive process. Few first-time applicants received grants, undermining the competitive nature of the program. With this NOFO, efforts have been made to increase coordination between national, state and local partners and FHEO. Future EOI deliverables will also be consistent with each other and administration priorities. In addition, FHEO is including a targeted focus on religious discrimination.

Program Objectives

The Education and Outreach Initiative seeks to:

1. Expand public understanding of rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act.
2. Promote voluntary compliance through education and outreach.
3. Improve access to accurate, accessible fair housing information.
4. Strengthen the capacity of organizations to deliver effective fair housing education.
5. Encourage innovative communications strategies that increase the reach and effectiveness of fair housing education.

6. Foster strategic partnerships that expand educational expertise and community engagement.
7. Develop educational resources that provide continuing public benefit beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.
8. Support a national fair housing education infrastructure capable of responding to emerging challenges and changing communications environments.
9. Increase and/or support compliance with the housing adaptability and accessibility guidelines contained in the FHA.

This NOFO has also been refocused to achieve the following Departmental objectives:

1. Targeted Focus on Religious Discrimination

The award encourages grantees to conduct activities that inform the public that religion is a protected characteristic, and that the Fair Housing Act bars discrimination based on religion. Currently, only around 2.5% of fair housing complaints involve allegations of religious discrimination. FHIPs serve a role in raising public awareness of these issues, and informing the public of their right to file housing discrimination complaints.

2. Expanding Competition.

In order to restore the competitive nature of the awards, this NOFO includes preference points for new applicants under the FHIP program. The inclusion of these preference points in this NOFO incentivizes new, first-time applicants to apply for the available FHIP awards. This is consistent with the direction provided in the recent executive order (EO 14332: Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking – The White House) to broaden participation in federally funded programs. This is also consistent with the intent of the authorizing statute and the implementing regulations. FHEO intends to expand the number and types of organizations engaging in fair housing enforcement and outreach through the FHIP program. Outreach to a broader pool of applicants opens the possibility of benefiting from those with additional experience outside of the FHIP program that may have helpful insights. FHEO is offering training opportunities to support new entrants to the program.

3. Grantee Funding Requirements.

With this NOFO, we encourage applicants to secure other resources to supplement the HUD award. To ensure FHIP funding supports sustainable fair housing partnerships, FHIP funding awards will not provide more than 50% of the operating budget of the recipient organization for any one year. The authorizing statute for FHIP requires that awards to fair housing organizations "...may not provide more than 50 percent of the operating budget of the recipient organization for any one year." (42 USC 3616a(c)(1)).

This is consistent with the history of the FHIP program. Historically, "organizations that appl[ied] for FHIP awards receive[d] points if they demonstrate[d] that they ha[d] other sources of funding to support fair housing activities. Therefore, the expectation is that FHIP awards will not provide 100 percent of grantees' total funding." (HUD PD&R Study of the Fair Housing Initiatives Program, 2011)

4. Ending Waste, Fraud and Abuse.

The Administration has recently established a waste fraud and abuse task force of which HUD is a member. (EO 14395: Establishing the Task Force to Eliminate Fraud – The White House)

In addition, Executive Order 14332: Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking – The White House, addresses the risk of waste, fraud and abuse in discretionary grant making, and the need for enhanced management and oversight of these awards. The order was promulgated "to improve the process of Federal grantmaking while ending offensive waste of tax dollars."

"The harm imposed by problematic Federal grants" includes but "*does not stop at* propagating absurd ideologies" as, "...even for projects receiving Federal funds that serve an ostensibly beneficial purpose, the Government has paid insufficient attention to their efficacy..." and, in fact, "the best proposals do not always receive funding, and there is too much unfocused research of marginal social utility... In short, there is a strong need to strengthen oversight and coordination of, and to streamline, agency grantmaking to address these problems, prevent them from recurring, and ensure greater accountability for use of public funds more broadly. The Government holds tax revenue in trust for the American people, and agencies should treat it accordingly."

Waste, fraud and abuse were issues that commenters raised in the public comments docket when the initial FHIP regulation was finalized in 1995.. At the time of the FHIP rulemaking, commenters "stressed the need for regulatory controls to ensure" that FHIP agencies are "objective and credible." They also "stressed the need for the Department to ensure that grantees do not have any conflicts of interest which might interfere" with, and that FHIP agencies have "the integrity to conduct" fair housing enforcement activities.

This NOFO will take a number of actions in furtherance of the Administration's efforts to eliminate waste, fraud and abuse, including enhancing the documentation around our risk-based review of grantees. For example, we have increased the weight of the risk score. In addition, we have included new Criminal Background, Conflict of Interest, and Integrity Sections in the NOFO. We have also expanded the performance history review to 5 years. Applicants with unresolved civil rights matters at the application deadline are deemed ineligible.

C. Authority

FHIP is authorized by section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3616a). EOI is specifically authorized under 42 U.S.C. 3616a(d). The FHIP implementing regulations are found at 24 CFR part 125 and EOI is outlined at Section 125.301.

Funding for this program is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-75, approved February 3, 2026).

D. Unallowable Costs

1. **Retainer Fees.** FHIP recipients are under specific restrictions (outlined in the grant agreement documents) regarding establishment of retainer agreements and recovery of legal fees from HUD-funded cases. Data on fees, settlements, and verdicts are

matters of public record. Awardees must provide this information to HUD annually. Neither the grantee nor the individual(s) on whose behalf any action is filed can request that HUD waive these provisions.

2. **Compensation.** Grantees cannot charge more than Level IV of the Federal Executive Schedule annually for an individual's compensation to the federal award even if the individual earns more than the capped amount. This compensation cap does not require grantees to limit the amount paid to individuals under this grant; however, the individual's remaining compensation over the cap must be paid from an alternative organization funding source. HUD reserves the right to determine whether compensation is reasonable and customary for the skill set provided and the areas being served.
3. **Eligible Activities**. HUD will not fund ineligible activities in a proposal and will not fund a proposal with more than 50% ineligible activities. Activities must be fair housing activities. Housing counseling activities are not eligible costs under the program.
4. **Allowable Approved Activities.** Recipients may only use funding awarded under this grant for the specific activities included in the application submitted under this EOI NOFO only. Funded applicants may not co-mingle funds to support other FHIP grant activities.
5. **Allowable Costs.** Additionally, recipients may only use funds for allowable costs, as defined in 2 CFR 200.403 and further detailed in the Terms and Conditions, such as costs necessary and reasonable to carry out *eligible activities*. *See* 2 CFR 200 Subpart E for detailed rules on cost principles.
6. **Suits Against the United States**. FHIP Grantees may not use HUD funds to pay expenses related to litigation against the United States. If your organization has been involved in litigation against the United States within the past three years, you will be required to provide documentation that demonstrates all FHIP grant funds were segregated and not co-mingled with the funds used to engage in such litigation.
7. **Other Litigation.** Applicants cannot propose to use funds under this NOFO application, or have used HUD funds to fund or support the settlement of a claim, satisfy a judgment, or fulfill a court order in any defensive litigation involving HUD or housing providers funded by HUD within the past three years. 42 U.S.C. §3616a (i).
8. **Projects aimed solely at research or data gathering are not eligible activities.** If a successful application contains research and related activities, only the eligible portions of the application will be funded; the ineligible research and related activities may not comprise more than 50% of the applicant's proposed grant activities or the application is ineligible for funding. While projects aimed solely at research or data gathering are ineligible, evaluation, audience analysis, and outreach-performance measurement are permissible where incidental and necessary to education and outreach may be within scope of the award. All proposed surveys/data gathering must be approved by HUD and the OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act before the application submission, or the activity is deemed ineligible.

E. Indirect Costs

If you expect to charge indirect costs to the award, submit the Indirect Cost Information for Award Applicant/Recipient form (HUD-426) with your application.

1. Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are costs incurred for common or joint purposes, such as general overhead and costs of general management, oversight, and coordination. These costs benefit more than one cost objective and cannot be readily identified with a particular final cost objective without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. Examples of indirect costs:

- Fiscal tracking of grant funds.
- Accounting staff wages and benefits.
- Depreciation of office equipment, general insurance, and general office supplies incurred for common or joint purposes.

One hundred percent of the salaries and fringe benefits related to general management or oversight functions serving a common or joint purpose are indirect costs. Salaries and benefits related to implementing your project or program elements of your grant agreement are direct costs.

Federally Negotiated Rate: If your organization has a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must include that rate, the applicable distribution base, and a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate.

2. **Direct Costs**

As defined in 2 CFR 200.413, direct costs are those that can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective, such as a federal award, or other internally or externally funded activity, or that can be directly assigned to such activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy. You will need to specify costs in your *Budget Narrative and Budget Worksheet, HUD-424-CBW.*

Salaries and fringe benefits related to the implementation of the project or program element of the grant agreement are not considered administrative costs. For example, the salaries and fringe benefits for technical staff to conduct work to accomplish specific Fair Housing goals outlined in the program are not administrative costs.

Examples of direct costs usually chargeable to FHIP grants include:

- Compensation of employees for the time devoted specifically to award performance and associated fringe benefits.
- Materials bought, consumed, or spent specifically for the award.
- Equipment necessary to carry out the award.
- Reasonable travel expenses necessary to carry out the award.
- Approved / reasonable translation and interpretation necessary to carry out the award.
- Reasonable information technology systems and services necessary to carry out the award.

- Litigation costs, such as costs of gathering evidence, necessary to carry out the award.
- Reasonable transportation costs, such as public transportation passes, to support a client's ability to take part in eligible services.
- Proportional professional licensing fees, professional liability insurance, and professional development costs, such as conference and travel costs or training in eligible services or skills, necessary to carry out the award.
- Outreach, educational, and marketing costs/ materials necessary to carry out the award.

a. You may use FHIP funds for the lease or rental of space for eligible activities if each of the following conditions is met:

i. The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities;

ii. no repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with grant funds; and

iii. properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased or rented with federal funds.

b. Administrative and clerical staff salaries may be treated as direct costs if each of the following conditions are met:

i. Administrative or clerical services are integral to *Eligible Legal Assistance Activities and Services* (Section III.F.), such as conducting work with tenants, coordinating with other organizations serving tenants, or maintaining client files;

ii. Individuals involved can be specifically identified with the activity;

iii. Such costs are explicitly included in the budget or have the prior written approval of HUD; and

iv. The costs are not also charged as indirect costs.

Changes from the FY2024 FHIP EOI NOFO, republished (FR-6900-N-21-A):

- Maximum award for NMC increased to $2,500,000 (from $1,300,000)
- Maximum award for General Component increased to $250,000 (from $125,000)
- Seven policy initiative preference point categories are possible under this NOFO (three were available under the prior NOFO).
- Applicants will submit Federal Assistance Funding Matrix and Certifications (HUD-424-M) with their application.
- The EOI NOFO was not published for FY2025 appropriations.
- **Expanding Competition:** In order to restore the competitive nature of the FHIP FHOI award, with this NOFO we have included four (4) preference points to be awarded to

new applicants under the FHIP program. This is consistent with the goals outlined above to increase a broader range of applicants for HUD grants along with the direction under the Grantmaking EO (EO 14332: Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking – The White House) to broaden participation in HUD programs.

- **Grantee Funding Requirements:** Diversified Funding Sources - With this NOFO, applicants are encouraged to secure the use of other resources to supplement the HUD award. FHIP funding may not provide more than 50% of the operating budget of the recipient organization for any one year. Applicants seeking to fund more than 50% of their Operating Budget for any single year are ineligible.
- **Ending Waste, Fraud and Abuse:** With this NOFO we have enhanced the documentation around our risk-based review of grantees. We have increased the weight of the risk score – if an applicant is deemed "high risk" there is a five (5) point reduction in the overall rating score. We have included new Criminal Background, Conflict of Interest, and Integrity Sections to the NOFO. We have expanded the performance history review to 5 years.

  An applicant cannot have received a "poor (unsatisfactory)" rating on a performance assessment on any prior FHIP grant within the past five (5) years or they will be ineligible for funding under this NOFO.
- **Expanded Stakeholder Groups:** For this NOFO, applicants may receive one (1) preference point if they can demonstrate cooperation with real estate industry organizations. Historically, this sort of cooperation has been frequently cited as achieving positive results for the program. See "(HUD PD&R Study of the Fair Housing Initiatives Program, 2011.) Also, the FHIP regulations at 24 CFR 301 indicate that preference points for expanded stakeholder groups would be beneficial.

1. Eligible EOI Activities

All project-related activities, materials, and costs within your Statement of Work and budget must have an explicit connection to Federal fair housing laws or to actions or inactions that may violate them. All project materials should have a common theme.

HUD will not fund any portion of an application that is not eligible for funding under the regulatory requirements or that does not meet the requirements under this NOFO. Housing Counseling services are not eligible activities for the EOI.

All projects/activities must include reasonable steps to ensure meaningful program access and effective communication for all individuals.

Eligible activities vary between the National Media Campaign and General Components.

a. National Media Campaign Component – Eligible Activities

The National Media Campaign Component supports a centralized, coordinated national fair housing communications strategy. The component is intended to develop high-quality, legally accurate, adaptable, and localizable education and outreach materials that may be used by

HUD, FHIP recipients, fair housing organizations, housing providers, industry participants, and the public.

NMC grantees will take part in a national coordinated effort to develop and disseminate creative and innovative fair housing education and outreach materials and media products, including implementing national fair housing month-related activities.

You must develop and implement a National Media Campaign that :

- Focuses on addressing intentional discrimination and barriers that may arise when people exercise their right to expand housing choice, to include all protected characteristics.
- Coordinates and deploys a national fair housing media campaign (including through a new fair housing website) by developing, disseminating, and leveraging creative and innovative fair housing education and outreach materials and communications strategies tailored to the needs of all Americans;
- Creates practical strategies, tools, and media that build the knowledge, skill, and capacity of all fair housing stakeholders to comply with fair housing obligations and the public to understand their fair housing rights and how to allege harm when they believe their rights are violated;
- Educates all stakeholders (to include fair housing practitioners, housing providers, industry, and the public) about the forms of discrimination that can occur in real estate related transactions;
- Provides general and specific fair housing education and outreach strategies, tools, and media for HUD's fair housing stakeholders and includes information about how to overcome housing discrimination, including by filing a housing discrimination complaint with HUD and its substantially equivalent local and state agencies;
- Creates a communications strategy (based on existing local needs and leveraging existing education and outreach strategies) with supporting messaging and materials for HUD's fair housing stakeholders to utilize during National Fair Housing Month, and for HUD-funded EOI grantees to strategically use in their education and outreach initiative efforts throughout the year (Note: All materials produced by the campaign must be easily localizable for use by other FHIP grantees and fair housing organizations).
- Each non-governmental recipient of regional, local, or community-based funding for activities located within the jurisdiction of a State or local enforcement agency or agencies administering a substantially equivalent fair housing law must consult with the agency or agencies to coordinate activities funded under FHIP.

Content developed and distributed under the NMC should be innovative, synergistic, and meet the education and communications needs of all American fair housing stakeholders in the 21st century, using media including, but not limited to:

- internet and World Wide Web (including through smartphones/mobile devices),

- email and listserv messages,
- television and/or digital video distribution (including Broadcast and streaming),
- streaming services (*e.g.,* Spotify, YouTube),
- radio, podcasts, and/or digital audio distribution (including via satellite and internet),
- print ads, which might include posters, pamphlets and brochures,
- social media and digital advertising campaigns through key social media platforms,
- instant messaging applications, and
- tangible public awareness and outreach materials.

All materials created must demonstrate a connection to furthering the non-discrimination provisions of the Fair Housing Act.

All content must be localizable for use by other FHIP organizations engaging in local fair housing education and outreach campaigns.

b. General Component – Eligible Activities

The EOI General Component supports regional, local, and community-based education and outreach activities that inform the public, housing providers, industry participants, and other stakeholders about rights and obligations under the Fair Housing Act. Activities should be designed to address documented local fair housing education needs and should complement, where appropriate, materials developed through the National Media Campaign.

EOI General Component (EOI-G) grantees will carry out regional, local, and/or community-based education and outreach activities designed to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

Eligible activities are those that inform people of their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, which may include, but are not limited to:

- developing and distributing fair housing materials (e.g., brochures, webinars, and social media advertising);
- conducting educational symposia or other training; and
- providing fair housing information and outreach through printed and electronic media to provide meaningful program access and effective communication to all individuals with protected characteristics applicable to communities in the proposed project area (i.e., Public Service Announcements for radio, television, and newspaper advertisements);
- Conduct education and outreach events to engage the public, housing providers and industry professionals, religious and community groups, advocacy and tenant groups, law schools and colleges, or/and other stakeholders.
- Each non-governmental recipient of regional, local, or community-based funding for activities located within the jurisdiction of a State or local enforcement agency or agencies administering a substantially equivalent fair housing law must consult with

the agency or agencies to coordinate activities funded under FHIP.

2. Project Beneficiary Requirements

a. Broad Based Project

You must demonstrate in your application that you will run a broad-based project (as defined under Appendix I.B., *Program definitions*). If you have income or other restrictions for services, you must identify the restriction(s) and describe how individuals who fall outside the restrictions will be equally served.

b. Fair Housing Act Protected Characteristics

Your project must address all types of housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin and further the Fair Housing Act. Your services and activities must reflect your organization's commitment to enforce fair housing laws on behalf of all individuals.

3. Other Requirements

a. Training Funds

Your proposed budget must set aside exactly $7,500 annually to participate in HUD-sponsored mandatory or approved training. If an applicant is awarded more than one FHIP grant (under more than one component), HUD reserves the right to examine the requested training needs. If additional training funds are not needed, HUD reserves the right to transfer funds back to fair housing activities during negotiations. Failure to use set aside funds for training and/or other fair housing activities as approved by HUD will result in the funds being returned to the Department.

If your organization is selected for more than two FY2026 FHIP awards, the applicant will not be permitted to set aside more than $15,000 per year during the grant period of performance for training purposes. Any designated amount for training more than $15,000 per 12-month period for a single grantee as a result of multiple awards will be reduced by HUD during negotiations, and the excess funds transferred back to fair housing activities. In addition, the $7,500 training funds set aside must either be expended, or the grantee must have a clearly established plan to expend the funds by the end of the third quarter of the grant period of performance. HUD reserves the right to require the return to Treasury of any training funds not expended or subject to a clearly established plan for expenditure by the third quarter of the grant period of performance.

b. **Criminal background and integrity.** The following requirements apply to all activities funded under this FHIP NOFO:

i. HUD will enforce all provisions of this NOFO that relate to the proper conduct of activities and protections regarding fraud, waste and abuse. Principals and employees of applicants, especially those who manage the funds awarded hereunder, must not have prior felony convictions or convictions of crimes involving fraud or perjury.

ii. Organizations conducting investigations and/or enforcement activities, and the employees and agents of these organizations may not:

(1) Have an economic interest in the outcome of an investigation, without prejudice to

the right of any person or entity to recover damages for any cognizable injury;

(2) Be a relative of any party in a case;

(3) Have had any employment or other affiliation, within one year, with the person or organization being investigated; or

(4) Be a licensed competitor of a respondent organization being investigated for the listing, rental, sale, or financing of real estate.

c. Code of Conduct.

Both you as the award recipient, and all subrecipients, must have a code of conduct (or written standards of conduct). The code of conduct must comply with the requirements included in the "Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards", as well as any program-specific requirements. These requirements include ethical standards related to conflicts of interest for procurements in 2 CFR 200.318(c) and 2 CFR 200.317, as well as HUD-specific conflict of interest standards. HUD maintains a list of organizations that have previously submitted written standards of conduct on its Code of Conduct for HUD Grant Programs webpage. It is your responsibility to ensure that the standards are compliant with the noted requirements **and** that HUD has the latest version of your written standards. Updated written standards should be submitted with the application. Any updates to your written standards, after the application period, should be submitted as directed by the HUD program contact for this NOFO.

IV. APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT

IV. Application Contents and Forms

A. Standard Forms, Assurances, and Certifications

B. Budget

C. Narratives and Other Attachments

D. Other Application Content

TABLE OF CONTENTS

IV. APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT

Applications must include three main elements: a) standard forms, assurances, and certifications; b) budget; and c) narratives and other attachments. The content, forms, and format for each element are included in this section.

You may use this section as a checklist to ensure you submit a complete application.

If you don't provide the required documents in the correct format, your application is incomplete.

Do not submit password protected or encrypted files.

Element	Submission Form
Standard Forms, Assurances, and Certifications	Upload using each required form.
Budget	Use the required budget form.
Narratives and Other Attachments	Insert each in the Attachments form.

You may submit a maximum of 10 pages, double-spaced 12-point Times New Roman font on letter sized paper (8 1/2 x 11 inches) with at least 1-inch margins on all sides, for each Rating Factor 1, 2 and 4, excluding the charts permitted to be submitted as part of your response to Rating Factor 1, which do not count toward the 10 page per Rating Factor limit. FHEO will not review pages submitted in excess of the permitted Rating Factor page limits, including if single spaced pages are submitted [in that case FHEO will stop reading after the equivalent of the double-spaced page limit has been reached].

There are no page limits for Rating Factor 3.

Ensure that your responses for each Rating Factor are listed under the appropriate heading; you will not receive credit for your submission under an incorrect Rating Factor.

A. Standard Forms, Assurances, and Certifications

You must properly complete and submit with your application the standard forms, assurances, and certifications identified below. You can find all forms in the application package or review them and their instructions at Grants.gov Forms. You can also read more about standard forms on HUD's Funding Opportunities page.

Forms/Assurances/ Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: SF-424

Forms/Assurances/ Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Applicant and Recipient Assurances and Certifications (HUD 424-B)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HUD-424B
Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report (HUD 2880)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HUD-2880
Certification Regarding Lobbying	Required with the application (except Federally-recognized tribes and their TDHEs)	Page limit: Not applicable File name: Lobbying Certification form
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	If applicable, required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: SF-LLL
Certification for a Drug-Free Workplace (HUD-50070)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HUD-50070
Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B)	If applicable, required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: SF-424B
Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan (HUD-2991)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HUD-2991

B. Budget

You must submit a budget with your application to support your project narrative.

Your budget must indicate direct and any indirect costs. Use form HUD-424-CBW to prepare your budget.

Please ensure that you review III.D. *Unallowable Costs* and III. G. Other Information when preparing your budget.

You **must** submit a complete budget for the entire performance and budget period of your proposed project, using Form HUD-424-CBW. See Section V. Rating Factor 3 for more information on Budget and related requirements.

If applicable, you must also submit Form HUD-426 based on the requirements in Section III. E. of this NOFO.

Federally Negotiated Rate: If your organization has a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must include that rate, the applicable distribution base, and a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate.

Budget Form/Document	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Federal Assistance Funding Matrix and Certifications (HUD-424-M)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HUD-424M Form location: download instructions
Grant Application Detailed Budget Worksheet (HUD-424-CBW)	Required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HUD-424CBW Form location: download instructions
Indirect Cost Information for Applicant/Recipient (HUD-426)	If applicable, this document is required with the application and after award	Page limit: Not applicable File name: ICR Doc. See Section III.E. Form location: download instructions

C. Narratives and Other Attachments

If applicable, you must upload narrative and other attachments in Grants.gov using the Attachments Form. When using the Attachments Form, you can upload PDF, Word or Excel formats.

If selected for an award, you will be required to submit your budgets in Excel format and your Statement of Work Charts in Word format.

Document	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Response to Rating Factors	Required with the application	See Section V.B File name:
HBCU Preference Points – Documentation	If applicable, this document is required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: HBCU Doc
Nonprofit Status – Documentation	If applicable, this document is required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File Name: Code

Document	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
		Acceptable Content
Code of Conduct	If not included in HUD's eLibrary, this document is required with the application	Page limit: Not applicable File name: Code Acceptable Content

D. Other Application Content

Successful applicants that apply as a nonprofit organization must provide current valid proof of nonprofit status.

If your application is selected for an award, you will be required to negotiate a grant agreement to include an approved final Statement of Work and Budget based upon the project proposed in your application, prior to the issuance of a formal award. All recipients will be required to complete all statement of work tasks and activities agreed upon during negotiations.

1. Technical Application Errors

HUD will contact you to fix a technical error with your timely application after the due date. Technical errors, if corrected, do not affect (positive or negative) your merit rating under this NOFO. Examples of technical errors include, but are not limited to: inconsistencies in funding requests; a missing or incomplete form or certification; failure to submit an otherwise sufficient application under the correct Assistance Listings number or Funding Opportunity Number in Grants.gov; improper signature on a form or certification; and missing or inappropriate eligibility documentation.

HUD will send notice to the authorized organization representative to fix a technical error. You must respond timely and appropriately to HUD's notice (see submission requirements).

Your application is not eligible for funding if you fail to fix the error to HUD's satisfaction by the due date in HUD's notice. HUD will not review information submitted after the due date in HUD's notice.

Corrections to Deficient Applications. In order not to unreasonably exclude applications from being rated and ranked, HUD may contact applicants to ensure proper completion of the application and will do so uniformly for all applicants. HUD will not permit or seek clarification of items or responses that improve the substantive quality of an applicant's response to any rating factors, may affect an applicant's score, or correct deficiencies which are in whole or part of a rating factor. Applicants will have no more than 3 business days from the date of notification to submit the required documents to HUD via email. Applicants will be notified by email about corrections to ensure notification. The applicants must submit the corrections by using the form HUD Form 90611 found in their downloaded application to submit the technical cures to HUD. HUD may permit minor adjustments to be made to award amounts to correct minor inconsistencies. However, applications that consistently request funding outside of the maximum or minimum award limits will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed.

You will not be permitted to make any correction or additional submission that may affect or has the potential to affect the merit rating under this NOFO.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

V. Application Review Information

A. Threshold Review

B. Merit Review

C. Risk Review

D. Selection Process

E. Award Notices

TABLE OF CONTENTS

V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Threshold Review

When you apply: Your application is reviewed to make sure it meets the threshold requirements of this NOFO. If your application has a technical error, HUD will allow you to correct it. If you fail to meet **any** of the threshold requirements, your application is **not** eligible for HUD funding. If you do meet the threshold requirements, your application moves to Merit Review (the next step).

1. Timely Application Submission

Late applications are not evaluated and not eligible for funding. See deadlines in Section VI.

2. Complete Application

If your application is timely, HUD will confirm completeness. Your application is considered for funding if it is complete and responsive to the requirements in this NOFO. If your application is incomplete, HUD will ask you to fix any technical errors. Otherwise, incomplete and nonresponsive applications are not considered for funding.

As required under 42 USC 3616a(f)(3) and 24 CFR 125.105, each application for funding under the FHIP must contain the following information, which will be assessed against the specific selection criteria set forth in this Notice of Funding Opportunity:

(a) A description of the practice (or practices) that has affected adversely the achievement of the goal of fair housing, and that will be addressed by the applicant's proposed activities.

(b) A description of the specific activities proposed to be conducted with FHIP funds including the final product(s) and/or any reports to be produced; the cost of each activity proposed; and a schedule for completion of the proposed activities.

(c) A description of the applicant's experience in formulating or carrying out programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

(d) An estimate of public or private resources that may be available to assist the proposed activities.

(e) A description of the procedures to be used for monitoring conduct and assessing results of the proposed activities.

(f) A description of the benefits that successful completion of the project will produce to enhance fair housing, and the indicators by which these benefits are to be measured.

(g) A description of the expected long term viability of project results.

(h) Any additional information required by the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Rating factors include citations to these regulatory sections, so the applicant can specify how they are meeting the required criteria in the appropriate Rating Factor response.

3. Eligible Applicant

Upon receipt, HUD will confirm whether you are an eligible applicant. Applications from ineligible applicants do not proceed to merit review and are not eligible for HUD funding.

See Section II. A. 1. for a complete description of eligible entity types.

B. Merit Review

If your application meets the threshold requirements, a panel will review and score its merits. The panel may include HUD employees and non-employees. They will evaluate your application based on the following criteria. The results of the evaluation are shared with senior HUD officials who make the final decisions about funding consistent with this NOFO.

Merit Review Summary

Criterion	Total number of points = 100 up to 107
Rating Factor 1	20 points
Rating Factor 2	50 points
Rating Factor 3	20 points
Rating Factor 4	10 points
Policy Initiative Preference Points	7 points
Total	107 points

Use headings to correspond to each Rating Factor to clearly identify your response. Information that you wish to be scored should be under the appropriate Rating Factor. We score each Rating Factor independently, so please follow the organization of these Rating Factors.

Applicants must provide responses to all four Rating Factors or the application will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed. The maximum number of Rating Factor points awarded under this NOFO is 100. In addition, applicants may receive a maximum of 7 Preference Points if the criteria are met, for a total of 107 possible NOFO points.

Carefully read this NOFO, including *Application Contents*, IV. C., for instructions on how to develop your Narrative Response to these Rating Factors. Each Rating Factor prompt describes the criteria we will use to evaluate your response to that Rating Factor and Sub-Factor. Reviewers will also consider whether your responses are complete, clearly articulated, and well-supported.

The above recommendations remain advisory and are not ministerially ratified, routinely deferred to, or otherwise treated as *de facto* binding by the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. This NOFO should not be construed to create any rights to any particular level of review or consideration for any funding applicant except as required by applicable law.

HUD may consider geographic distribution, diverse types and sizes of applicant entities, unique methods or approaches, or a limitation on the number of awards a single applicant may receive when selecting applicants for funding; and may target geographic areas based on changing population and demographics.

1. Rating Factors

Your application must include a response to the following criteria.

Criterion	Max points = 100, up to 107
Rating Factor 1: Capacity of Applicant and Relevant Organizational Experience	20 max points
Description of Staff and Staff Expertise – 10 points Organizational Experience – 10 points	
Rating Factor 2: Need/Distress/Extent of the Problem	50 max points
Problem Statement - 10 points Required Narrative Element 1 – 10 points Required Narrative Element 2 – 10 points Required Narrative Element 3 – 10 points Proposed Solution (Program Objectives, Effectiveness of Plan and Alignment to Needs) – 10 points	
Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach	20 max points
Statement of Work (SOW) and SOW Narrative – 10 points Budget Form HUD-424-CBW and Budget Narrative – 10 points	
Rating Factor 4: Achieving Results and Program Evaluation	10 max points
Measurement – 5 points Evaluation Plan – 5 Points	
Policy Initiative Preference Points	7 max points
• HBCU (1) • Cooperation with real estate industry organizations (1) • Educational and technical assistance to support compliance with accessibility requirements (1) • First Time Applicants for FHIP Funding (4)	

Rating Factors Details

<u>Rating Factor 1: Capacity of Applicant and Relevant Organizational Experience</u> 20 max

points

For EOI-NMC applications, you may wish to emphasize communications/media capacity. For EOI-G applications, you may wish to emphasize fair housing education and outreach capabilities. Address the extent to which your organization has the staff experience and organizational capacity necessary to successfully complete the proposed project. (See 24 CFR 125.105(c))

Diversified Funding Sources: Applicants are encouraged to secure the use of other resources to supplement the HUD award. (See 24 CFR 125.105(d)) Applicants that can demonstrate diversified funding resources will receive higher scores in this factor.

- You must include the following elements within your narrative response: Description of Staff and Staff Expertise: Experience of individual(s) who will work on the grant that will contribute to the success of the proposed project.
    - Describe each key staff member's fair housing related experience relevant to the proposed project, such as in fair housing or other training, disseminating information to the community, complaint intake, preventing or eliminating housing discrimination, etc.; and explain how each staff member's experience will expressly contribute to the success of the project.
    - You must have more than one current key staff member with experience formulating or carrying out programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices on board at the time the application is submitted (be specific when describing experience).
    - Identify key project staff by name and position and estimated percentage of time each will dedicate to the project. Include total percentage of staff time devoted to the project over the entire period of performance (POP) which cannot exceed 100% across all duties (including for current grants and other FHIP applications). Project Manager must be a current employee and dedicate no less than 25% of time over the entire POP. Key Staff information may be provided in a graph or chart that will not count toward the Rating Factor 1 page limit.
- Organizational Experience: Experience of the organization applying for the grant that will contribute to the success of the proposed project.
  You must clearly demonstrate that your organization has:
    - a complete and effective staffing plan and sufficient and sufficiently qualified staff, including maintaining current staff and adding staff, proposed consultants and/or subrecipients as applicable during the period of performance, to successfully implement and complete the proposed project. Explain how you will evaluate the performance of and provide oversight for subrecipients, if any.
    - described past project(s) conducted similar in scope and complexity to the project proposed and/or engaged in activities that are readily transferable to the proposed project; and include the results of such past projects.

- described existing organizational resources which are necessary to successfully implement the proposed activities in a timely manner, and the organization's ability to develop and implement large communications and education campaign projects on a regional/local level, and if applying for the EOI-NMC, also on a national level.
- if applying for EOI-NMC, described your organization's experience as a national media organization or its established partnership with a national media organization.
- described your organization's capacity to conduct an education and outreach campaign utilizing a variety of media, to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices and promote fair housing in accordance with the Fair Housing Act.

Rating Factor 2: Need/Distress/Extent of the Problem 50 max points

You must include the following elements within your narrative response (*See* 24 CFR 125.105(a) and (b)):

- **Problem Statement**
- **Proposed Solution**

Program Objectives

- You must clearly demonstrate that the proposal advances the policy priorities of the Department, and the goals and objectives of the program.

Effectiveness of Plan

- Describe your plan to address the fair housing needs identified.
- Explain why this intervention will be effective.

Alignment to Needs

- Explain how you will use funds to expand services to areas and to issues that are not currently served by a fair housing enforcement organization (e.g., a FHIP or FHAP).
- Describe how the proposed activities foster and maintain compliance with civil rights and fair housing.

Applicants should describe how proposed outreach activities will be coordinated, where appropriate, with HUD, FHAP agencies, FHIP recipients, and other fair housing stakeholders to avoid duplication and improve consistency of messaging.

Required Narrative Element 1:

Executive Order (EO) 14332, titled "Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking," is a directive issued by the White House on August 7, 2025 that requires federal discretionary grants to focus on performance-based investments that align explicitly with the Administration's policy priorities. It prohibits the use of funds to promote or subsidize

immigration, illegal racial preferences or discrimination, or initiatives that promote gender ideology. It also encourages agencies to engage a broader range of recipients. HUD has made it clear that it is committed to the purpose of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which is to "do away with all governmentally imposed discrimination based on race. Eliminating racial discrimination means eliminating all of it." Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard College, 600 U.S. 181, 206 (2023). To that end, the activities promoted by this NOFO and the funds used under cannot be used for any type of illegal racial preferences. In addition, HUD is committed to restoring equal access and the protection of faith-based activities for faith-based organizations that operate consistent with their sincerely held religious beliefs, recognizing all relevant protections provided by subsection C of HUD's Equal Participation Rule, 24 C.F. R. 5.109, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, and the First Amendment.

Please describe how this grant if funded will contribute to the advancement of at least one of the priorities discussed above.

Required Narrative Element 2:

Under the current administration, federal fair housing enforcement is guided by three core principles:

- Restore fair housing enforcement to its core statutory objectives;
- Recognize that all Americans have civil rights and liberties that must be protected; and
- Enforce the Fair Housing Act within constitutional limitations.

Please describe how your application, if funded, would advance these principles.

Required Narrative Element 3:

You must clearly identify and describe the fair housing needs to be addressed, and the direct relationship between your proposed project and how, through your proposed project your organization plans to address housing discrimination in a way that meets those fair housing needs. Provide any available reference material that supports this rationale, including data, studies, reports, or other evidence.

Describe how the proposed tasks and activities are aligned with the specific fair housing needs identified for the targeted area, and how the proposed activities foster and maintain compliance with civil rights and fair housing, including but not limited to addressing documented evidence of discrimination prohibited by the Fair Housing Act within the project area; and how you will use award funds to provide services in an area with unmet fair housing needs and/or expand fair housing services to areas not currently served by a fair housing organization.

Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach 20 max points

This factor is based on the: (1) Proposed Statement of Work (SOW) and Information Requirements; and (2) Budget and Cost Estimates.

Your work plan must follow *all* NOFO requirements.

You must include the following elements within your narrative response (*See* 24 CFR 125.105(b) and (d)):

- **Proposed SOW and Information Requirements:** Activities proposed to be conducted with a schedule for completion.
- **Budget and Cost Estimates:** The cost of each activity proposed.

SOW Narrative

- Identify quantifiable project goals and describe how these goals relate to each of the needs identified in response to Rating Factor 2. Goals are the results or outcomes the applicant intends to accomplish.
- Identify and explain the proposed activities and specific deliverables, and anticipated outcomes consistent with the activities outlined in the SOW Chart.

Include a description of your fair housing complaint referral process that will be activated/utilized throughout the proposed project, a description of the continuation of existing activities and/or the expansion or creation of fair housing activities, including into new service areas, as applicable.

Statement of Work (SOW) Chart (use Appendix A as an example)

Submit a complete SOW Chart for the entire project performance period, and incorporate and describe all specific tasks and activities necessary for the proposed project. Add/edit Administrative and Program Tasks and add/edit tasks in Appendix A as necessary and appropriate for the proposed project. Your proposed activities and deliverables must be clear and measurable and directly related to the line items and overall expenditures in the proposed Budget.

The SOW program tasks must include all proposed activities and major tasks related to implementing a large scale regional/local and or national if applicable, fair housing media campaign, and the budget must specifically set forth all expenditures necessary to implement all necessary activities.

Budget Narrative

Your budget Narrative must

- identify key team members/staff and partners/subrecipients, consistent with the list provided in Rating Factor 1, who will be responsible for completing major tasks, and the costs associated with those individuals for the tasks described.
- clearly describe the organization's Financial Management Capacity and its Board's role in financial management and oversight of the organization.
- describe the organization's processes for and capabilities in handling financial resources, disseminating payments to third parties (e.g. contractors), and maintaining adequate accounting and internal control procedures to appropriately expend and accurately track expenditures of federal grant funds. HUD will not award or disburse funds to applicants not having a financial management system meeting Federal standards as described in 2 CFR 200.302.

- if applicable, include a list or chart of current and/or prior FHIP grants received since FY2022 (grant number, dollar amount awarded, amount expended and obligated as of 30 days prior to the date the application is submitted; and a description of the activities and results achieved). If you do not have any past or current FHIP grants to report you may state that, and you may include a statement instead if you wish to apply for New Applicant Policy Initiative Preference Points.

Grant Application Detailed Budget Worksheet (HUD-424-CBW)

You must submit a HUD-424-CBW for the entire project period that

- presents a clear, thorough and complete budget.
- includes budget line items which all directly correspond to the tasks and activities in the SOW.
- clearly list all direct and indirect costs (if any) associated with project implementation and completion.
- includes the mandatory $7,500 per project year for HUD sponsored or approved training, in Other Direct Costs in the budget.
- You must also submit a separate HUD-424-CBW for each subrecipient or contractor whose budget amount equals or exceeds $10,000.

Reminder: You must submit a SOW Chart and HUD 424-CBW Budget for the performance and budget period of the proposed project, or your application will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed.

Rating Factor 4: Achieving Results and Program Evaluation 10 max points

Considering your responses to Rating Factors 1 through 3, HUD will assess your plan to evaluate your achievement of proposed goals and the extent to which your organization evaluates and measures results and holds itself accountable to ensure effective program management.

Your application must clearly outline the organization's strategy for measuring, evaluating and improving (if necessary) its program performance against proposed activity goals during the grant period of performance.

All applications must include clear benchmarks for measuring success and progress towards relevant goals.

Include the following elements within your narrative response (*See* 24 CFR 125.105(e)-(g)):

1. **Measurement**

Describe and explain the strategies in place and that will be used to gather valid quantifiable data and measure outputs and outcomes for the program activities and goals outlined in the Statement of Work. Identify outcomes that reflect the anticipated effect your organization's proposed activities will have on its beneficiaries. Explain how the data gathered will be validated.

2. **Evaluation Plan**

Propose a plan to effectively evaluate progress toward stated objectives and goals. Explain how the organization will evaluate long-term outcomes of the proposed project work in your target service area.

2. Policy Initiative Preference Points

Preference points are added to your overall application score. You do not need to address the policy initiatives in this section to receive an award. If you choose to address a policy initiative in your application, you must adhere to the information with any award.

Preference points are added to your overall application score. You do not need to address the policy initiatives in this section to receive an award. If you choose to address a policy initiative in your application, you must adhere to the information with any award.

a. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

You may receive one (1) point, if you are an HBCU. To receive the point, you must include in your application documentation of your HBCU designation.

OR

You may receive one (1) point, if you are partnering with an HBCU. To receive the point, you must include in your application a letter of commitment and HBCU status documentation. The letter must confirm your partnership. The letter must also include the signature of a leadership official at the HBCU.

b. Cooperation with real estate industry organizations

You may receive one (1) point if you demonstrate within your application narratives that you have cooperated and/or are cooperating with, and will cooperate with real estate industry organizations. Include specific information to describe your past and/or current cooperation **and** how you will incorporate your organization's cooperation with real estate organizations into your work plan and tasks and activities.

c. Educational Information and Technical Assistance for Accessibility Requirements

You may receive one (1) point if you demonstrate within your application narratives that yo will disseminate educautional information and technical assistance to support compliance with accessibility requirements as part of your award activities.

d. First Time Applicant for FHIP Funding

To receive four (4) preference points for this factor, you must include a brief statement of eligibility (i.e., identifying that you are a new applicant) and a description of how this grant funding would enable you to build your capacity as a fair housing organization. This is consistent with the goals outlined above in the goals to increase a broader range of applicants for HUD grants. A first time applicant cannot have received a previous award under this or other FHIP programs. A first time applicant excludes applicants that are a parent organization or an affiliate/subsidiary of a FHIP grantee, or an affiliate and parent organization with staff sharing protocols whereby the parent organization shares key staff with an affiliate(s). You may include this statement in place of the list or chart to be submitted as part of the response to Rating Factor 3 by current/ recent FHIP grantees listing their

current/ recent grants and outcomes.

3. Other Factors

Your application must respond to the following additional criteria.

a. Budget

The panel will evaluate but not approve the budget. The panel will assess whether the budget aligns with planned program activities and objectives. Panel members will consider whether the budget and the requested performance period are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed project.

b. Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan

You must ensure that the activities in your application are consistent with your local Consolidated Plan.

C. Risk Review

Before making any awards, HUD will evaluate each applicant's likelihood of successfully carrying out the project. Here's what HUD looks at:

Past Performance:

- Government-wide performance data, as noted in 2 CFR 200.206(a)
- Public sources like news reports, Inspector General findings, Government Accountability Office reports, and complaints proven to have merit
- History of managing Federal awards (if applicable), including on-time reporting, meeting planned goals, and following previous award rules. And, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards
- Reports from past audits, including those performed under 2 CFR part 200, subpart F–Audit Requirements
- History of finishing activities on time and using any promised matching or leveraged funds

Organizational Health:

- Financial stability
- Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards in 2 CFR part 200
- Ability to follow all required laws and rules
- Capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities

Results:

- Ability to promote self-sufficiency and economic independence
- Number of people served or targeted for assistance

Before making any awards, HUD will evaluate each applicant's likelihood of successfully carrying out the project. This assessment helps identify risks that may affect the advancement toward or the achievement of a project's goals and objectives. (2 CFR 200.206). HUD will also consider debarments and suspensions, misuse of federal funds for purposes outside the program, and performance assessments and/or any performance improvement plans for past funding, including grants, partnership awards and/or cooperative agreements. Your organization must comply with cost principles in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E (200.400 et seq) and where applicable, Part 170.

HUD will also consider any history of illegal discrimination, including illegal racial discrimination as well as any unresolved civil rights charges or complaints that arise after the application period.

HUD in its discretion may use the results of the risk review as a sufficient and independent basis to reject an award, apply special conditions on an award, or reduce the amount of an award.

Risk Review and Application Points

HUD will consider past performance with the assessment of applicant risk. For current / recent FHIP grantees, the review of past performance will include a consideration of the applicant's most recent FHIP Final Performance Assessment Report (PAR).

Final PARs contain these items: (1) evaluation of the performance of all requirements under the grant; (2) the extent to which goals were met; (3) acceptance of work performed; (4) quality of performance; and (5) the extent to which the budget was adhered to and grant funds were expended for grant related activities during the period of performance.

Up to 11 points may be deducted from the applicant's overall rating score as follows:

1 point if the applicant received less than an "Excellent"
5 points if the applicant received less than a "Good"
5 points if the applicant is deemed "High Risk"

An organization is ineligible for funding if it received a "poor (unsatisfactory)" rating on a performance assessment on any prior FHIP grant within the past five years.

HUD may use the results of the risk review to make final funding decisions and/or set specific conditions on the award.

D. Selection Process

When making award funding decisions, HUD will consider:

- Threshold review results, including eligibility requirements.
- Merit review results.
- Risk review results.

To the extent allowed by law, HUD may also consider:

- The scope of the overall projected impact on the program and administrative goals and priorities in this NOFO.

- Reasonableness of the estimated costs to the government.
- The applicant's readiness to conduct the proposed work.
- Likelihood that the proposed project will result in the benefits expected.
- Broad range of recipients beyond recurrent recipients.
- Geographic dispersion.
- All else being equal, preference for applicants with lower indirect cost rates.
- Applicants with demonstrated success in implementing Gold Standard Science (applicable to research awards).
- Applicants with potential to produce immediate results and potential for longer-term, breakthrough results, based on the goals of this NOFO (applicable to research awards).

To the extent allowed by law, HUD may:

- Fund applications in whole or in part.
- Fund applications at a lower amount than requested.
- Choose to fund no applications under this NOFO.
- Withdraw an award offer and make an offer of funding to another eligible application, if terms and conditions are not finalized or met timely.
- Use additional funds made available after NOFO publication to either fully fund an application or fund additional applications.
- Correct HUD review and selection errors. If HUD commits an error that causes an applicant not to be selected, HUD may make an award to that applicant when and if funding is available.
- Release another NOFO, if funding is available and if HUD does not receive applications of merit.

1. Rating and Ranking

   a. **Ineligible Applications.** Ineligible applications and those that do not meet *Threshold Review* requirements, V.A., will not be rated or ranked.

   b. **Ranking.** All eligible applications will be ranked based on the total score.

2. Adjustments to Funding

   HUD may fund only portions of an application, withhold funds after approval, reallocate funds among activities and/or require that special conditions be added to the grant agreement, under 2 CFR § 200.208 or where:

   a. HUD determines the amount requested for one or more eligible activities is unreasonable or unnecessary;

   b. An ineligible activity is proposed in an otherwise eligible project;

c. Insufficient funding amounts remain to award the full amount requested in the application, and HUD determines that partial funding is a viable option;

d. The past record of key personnel warrants special conditions;

e. An applicant has not included the mandatory training funding allocation in the budget and the applicant is selected for an award (HUD will modify the applicant's budget, reallocating the appropriate training amount); or

f. An applicant is awarded more than one grant (e.g. HUD will re-examine the organization's training needs).

3. Reallocation of Funds

   Any funds remaining after award selections will be reallocated first within EOI, then to the other FHIP Initiatives based on need.

4. Discretion. HUD will retain discretion to make awards as necessary out of rank order to organizations with applications eligible for an award, to provide broad geographic representation among funded organizations, to ensure geographic coverage of media/ outreach, to target geographic areas where there are no fair housing enforcement organizations, there have been significant population changes, or there are unmet fair housing enforcement needs. Factors such as population size and composition, and existence or lack of fair housing organizations and/or enforcement agencies, may be considerations in exercising such discretion.

E. Award Notices

If your application is successful, HUD will email an award notice to the authorized official representative from the SF-424. HUD will also notify unsuccessful applicants.

The award notice communicates the amount of the award, important dates, and the terms and conditions you need to follow. The notice may also include HUD-imposed award conditions as provided under 2 CFR 200.208.

You agree to the award terms and conditions by either drawing funds from HUD's payment system or signing the agreement with HUD. If you do not agree to the award terms and conditions, HUD may select another eligible applicant.

1. Notification

Information about the review and award process will not be available during the HUD evaluation period, which begins on the application deadline date for this NOFO and lasts for approximately 90 days thereafter. However, you will be advised, in writing if HUD determines that your application is ineligible, or has technical deficiencies which may be corrected. HUD will only communicate with persons specifically identified in the SF-424 in the application. HUD will not provide information about the application to any third party including contractors.

2. Negotiation

If your application is selected for funding, HUD will require you to participate in negotiations to determine the specific terms of your grant agreement. The award selection is conditional and

does not become final until the negotiations are successfully concluded and the grant agreement is fully executed based upon the negotiations. HUD will negotiate only with the person identified in the application as the Director of the organization or specifically identified in the application, such as the Project Director. HUD will not negotiate with any third party (i.e., a contractor, etc.). HUD will determine on a case-by-case basis if technical assistance or special conditions are required.

3. Applicant Scores

After awards are announced, applicants may request and receive their final score. HUD will not release the names of applicants or their scores to any third party.

VI. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

VI. Submissions Requirements and Deadlines

A. Deadlines

B. Submission Methods

C. Other Submissions

D. False Statements

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VI. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

You must apply electronically, unless you qualify to submit a paper application. See Find the Application Package to make sure you have everything you need to apply online.

Make sure you are current with SAM.gov and UEI requirements before applying for the award. See the Before You Begin section of this NOFO.

A. Deadlines

1. Application submission deadline:

The application deadline is 11:59:59 PM Eastern time on:

01/01/2027

HUD must receive your application by the deadline. Applications received after the deadline are late. Late applications are not eligible for HUD funding.

If HUD receives more than one application from you, HUD will review only the last submission.

HUD may extend an application due date based on emergency situations such as Presidentially-declared natural disasters. An improper or expired registration and password issues are not causes to allow HUD to accept applications after the deadline date.

2. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions

If Grants.gov rejects your application before the deadline, you have up to 24 hours after the application deadline to correct and resubmit your application. Any application submitted during the grace period but not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications.

B. Submission Methods

1. Electronic Submission

You must register and submit your application through Grants.gov. See Before You Begin.

For instructions on how to submit in Grants.gov, see the Quick Start Guide for Applicants. Make sure that your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks or we may not get it.

Grants.gov will record the date and time of your application submission. HUD will use this information to determine timely applications.

Need Help? See the Contact and Support section of this NOFO.

2. Electronic Submission Application Waiver

You may request a waiver from the requirement to submit your application electronically. The request must show good cause and detail why you are technologically unable to submit electronically. An example of good cause may include: a valid power or internet service disruption in the area of your business office. Lack of SAM.gov registration is not good cause.

Use the information in the Contact and Support section of this NOFO to submit a written

request to HUD. You must **submit your waiver request at least 15 calendar days before the application deadline**.

Submit your waiver request **no later than 15 days prior to the application deadline** to AllaboutFHIP@hud.gov and Katherine.Vasilopoulos@hud.gov for consideration. Waiver requests received timely will be submitted to FHEO's Assistant Secretary or his designee for a final determination. If HUD grants you a waiver, the notification will provide instructions on where and how to submit the paper application.

NOTE: HUD HQ must receive paper applications no later than 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on the application deadline date. There is no grace period for paper application submissions. HUD recommends applicants send paper applications via a courier that provides a receipt of delivery. All applicants will receive confirmation (via Form HUD 2993) of HUD's receipt of the application, but confirmation might not be received by you before the submission deadline.

A paper application submitted without a waiver granted will not be accepted and will be returned to sender.

C. Other Submission Information

1. Intergovernmental Review

This NOFO is not subject to Executive Order 12372. No action is needed.

2. Technical Application Errors

HUD will contact you to fix a technical error with your timely application after the due date. Use the following submission requirements to respond to HUD's notice.

a. Fix Errors in Electronic Applications

To fix an error in response to a HUD notice, you must email the corrections to HUD at applicationsupport@hud.gov. The subject line of the email to applicationsupport@hud.gov must state "Technical Fix" and include the Grants.gov application tracking number (e.g., Subject: Technical Fix - GRANT123456). If you do not email applicationsupport@hud.gov or if you do not include the appropriate subject line, HUD may mark your application as ineligible.

The HUD notice will allow between 48 hours and 14 calendar days from the date of the HUD notice to fix an error. If the due date to fix an error falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Federal holiday, or on a day when HUD's Headquarters is closed, then the due date moves to the next business day.

b. Fix Errors in Paper Applications

You must fix an error in your paper application, in accordance with HUD's notice. If your paper application includes an incorrect UEI, HUD will request you supply the correct UEI.

D. False Statements

By submitting an application, you acknowledge your understanding that providing false or misleading information on your application, or during any part of the performance phase of an

award, can lead to serious consequences. Those consequences include but are not limited to: fines, repayment, restitution, prison time, termination of any HUD award, and being banned from receiving any future HUD award and doing business with the federal government (18 USC 1001, 18 USC 1012, 18 USC 1010, 18 USC 1014, 18 USC 287, 31 USC 3729 et seq., 31 USC 3801-3812, FAR Part 9.4, 2 CFR Part 180, other remedies in your HUD award).

Consequences also include: treble damages and civil penalties under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729 et seq.; double damages and civil penalties under the Administrative False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3801- 3812; civil recovery of award funds; suspension and/or debarment from all federal procurement and non-procurement transactions, Federal Acquisition Regulations Part 9.4 or 2 C.F. R. Part 180; and other remedies including termination of an active HUD award.

By submitting your application, you acknowledge that you have read and understood federal laws and regulations, grant terms and conditions, and rules and requirements applicable to HUD's FHIPs program as described in this NOFO. As part of your application for funding, you must provide the certifications and assurances described below to ensure that you understand your obligation to protect the funds from fraud. Furthermore, grant recipients must require each subrecipient to provide the same anti-fraud certifications and assurances. In support of your application for the grant, you certify under the penalty of perjury, that:

(1) You have the authority to make the following representations on behalf of yourself and the applicant, and you understand that these representations will be relied upon as material in any HUD decision to make an award to the applicant based on its application,

(2) You have the legal authority to apply for the federal assistance sought by the application, and that the applicant has the institutional, managerial, and financial capability to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in the application.

(3) The information provided in the application is true, accurate, and complete.

(4) Throughout the period of performance for the award, if any,

a. The applicant will comply with and follow all federal laws and regulations, grant terms and conditions, and rules and requirements applicable to HUD's FHIPs program;

b. The applicant will require all subrecipients to comply with and follow all federal laws and regulations, grant terms and conditions, and rules and requirements applicable to HUD's FHIPs;

c. The applicant will notify HUD within fifteen (15) calendar days if the applicant becomes aware of any violation of HUD requirements pertinent to the award by any person or entity including, but not limited to the applicant, any subrecipient, or contractor;

d. The applicant will maintain safeguards to address and prevent any conflicts of interest, and to prohibit employees from using their positions in any manner that poses, or appears to pose, a personal or financial conflict of interest; and

e. The applicant will comply with HUD's conflict-of-interest requirements including but not limited to those under 24 CFR 125.201.

(5) The applicant will give HUD, the Office of Inspector General, and the Comptroller General of the United States, through any authorized representative, access to and opportunity to examine all records, books, papers, documents, or electronic records related to the award, if any, made by HUD.

(6) The applicant will establish an accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or HUD directives, consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.302, "Financial Management," and 2 C.F.R. § 200.303, "Internal Controls."

(7) The applicant will submit the performance, financial, and program reports as outlined in the NOFO and required by federal laws and regulations.

(8) The applicant will require that the language of these Anti-Fraud Certifications and Assurances be included in the award documents or agreements for all subawards as defined at 2 CFR 200.1and that the applicant will seek from all subrecipients the same certifications and assurances.

(9) You understand that complying with the terms, conditions, and requirements of your award, if any, is a material condition of remaining eligible for HUD funding.

VII. POST - AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

VII. Post-Award Requirements and Administration

A. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements and General Terms and Conditions

B. Environmental Requirements

C. Remedies for Noncompliance

D. Reporting

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VII. POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

A. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements, and General Terms and Conditions

You must follow the applicable provisions in the Administrative, National & Departmental Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance – 2026:

Administrative

1. Build America, Buy America (BABA) (Sections 70901-52 of Public Law 117-58; 41 U.S.C. 8301 et seq; and 2 CFR Part 184)

2. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (42 U.S.C. § 4601 et seq.; 49 CFR part 24; and applicable program regulations)

3. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR part 200)

4. HUD requirements related to safeguarding resident/client files consistent with 2 CFR 200.303(e)

5. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) (2 CFR part 170)

6. Eminent Domain

7. Participation in HUD-Sponsored Program Evaluation (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1; 12 U.S.C. 1702z-2; 24 CFR part 60; and FR-6278-N-01)

8. The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. § 552(b) and 24 CFR 15.107(b))

9. Presidential Executive Actions affecting federal financial assistance programs

- Executive Order (EO) 14332 (*Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking*)
- EO 14303 (*Restoring Gold Standard Science*)
- EO 14219 (*Ensuring Lawful Governance and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Deregulatory Initiative*);
- EO 14218 (*Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders*);
- EO 14202 (*Eradicating Anti-Christian Bias*);
- EO 14205 (*Establishment of the White House Faith Office*)
- EO 14182 (*Enforcing the Hyde Amendment*);
- EO 14173 (*Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*);
- EO 14168 (*Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government*)
- EO 14151 (*Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing*); and

- EO 14148 (*Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions*)

Civil Rights and Other Protections

10. The Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and Civil Rights laws (24 CFR 5.105(a))

12. Economic Opportunities for Low-and Very Low-income Persons (12 U.S.C. § 1701u and 24 CFR part 75)

13. Compliance with Immigration Requirements (8 U.S.C. § 1601-1646; 8 U.S.C. § 1324a ("Unlawful employment of aliens"); and Executive Order 14218, *Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders*)

14. Accessible Technology requirements (29 U.S.C. § 794d; 29 U.S.C. 794; and 42 U.S.C. 12131-12165 and implementing regulations at 36 CFR part 1194 (Section 508 regulations), 24 CFR § 8.6 (Section 504 effective communication regulations), 28 CFR part 35, subpart H (DOJ Web Access Rule), and 28 CFR part 35, subpart E (DOJ's Title II communications regulations))

15. Ensuring, when possible, the consideration of small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms consistent with 2 CFR 200.321

16. Equal Participation of Faith-based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities consistent with 42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq.; 24 CFR 5.109; Executive Order (EO) 14202, *Eradicating Anti-Christian Bias;* and EO 14205, *Establishment of the White House Faith Office*

17. Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities requirements (29 U.S.C. § 794 and implementing regulations at 24 CFR parts 8 and 100; 28 CFR part 35)

18. Applicable Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) requirements in the Housing Chapter of VAWA (34 U.S.C. § 12491-12496); 24 CFR part 5, subpart L; and program-specific regulations

19. Trafficking in persons (Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protections Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended 22 U.S.C. § 7104(g) and implementing regulations at 2 CFR part 175)

Environmental

20. Environmental requirements that apply in accordance with 24 CFR part 50 or part 58; 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.

Business Integrity

21. Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards (Code of Conduct), including 2 CFR 200.317, 2 CFR 200.318(c), and other applicable conflicts of interest requirements

22. Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (41 U.S.C. § 3901 and 2 CFR 200.216)

23. Waste, Fraud, Abuse, and Whistleblower Protections (41 U.S.C. § 4712)

24. Drug-Free Workplace (2 CFR part 2429)

In addition, if any part or provision of the award agreement or terms of this NOFO are enjoined or held to be void or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, they shall be ineffective as to such jurisdiction and only to the extent of such prohibition or enjoinment and shall not invalidate or affect the legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions and applications of the Agreement and Notice. In the event the enjoinment of such provisions is stayed, dissolved, or reversed, the full terms of the award agreement and NOFO, including such provisions, will automatically become effective. This clause is self-executing and will become effective, binding, and enforceable automatically upon issuance of this NOFO.

25. Additional Terms

a.Awards made under this NOFO will not be used to engage in illegal racial discrimination including unlawful racial preferences.

b. Awards made under this NOFO will not be distributed in a way that violates or otherwise is used to interfere with constitutional protections guaranteed for speech and religious beliefs and the free exercise of religion.

c. Awards made under this NOFO will not be used in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 856 or §863, relating to the federal prohibitions on drug distribution.

d. Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.332(b)(2), all agreements or contracts made with subrecipients under this NOFO must contain the same terms and conditions as those in the grant agreement issued by HUD. Any conflicting terms and conditions must be approved by HUD.

These post award requirements are imposed where allowable by federal law and not restricted by a judicial order from a court of competent jurisdiction.

B. Environmental Requirements

1. Environmental Review

Activities funded under this NOFO are exempt or categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC § 4321) and not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities. The exemption or categorical exclusion is in accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(2), (3), (4), (9), (12) and (13).

2. NOFO Impact Determination Related to the Environment

This NOFO provides assistance in promoting or enforcing fair housing or nondiscrimination laws. Accordingly, under 24 CFR 50.19(c)(3), this NOFO is categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC § 4321).

3. Lead-Based Paint Requirements

You must discuss the Lead Disclosure Rule if you fund education or counseling on buying or renting housing that may have been built before 1978. You must also discuss the Lead Safe Housing Rule if the education or counseling focuses on buying or renting HUD-assisted pre-1978 housing.

C. Remedies for Noncompliance

HUD may terminate all or a part of your award as described under 2 CFR 200.340 through

200.343 pursuant to the terms and conditions of your award, including, to the extent authorized by law:

- if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities; or
- in the case of a partial termination, if HUD determines that the remaining portion of the award will not accomplish the purposes for which the HUD award was made.

HUD may also impose specific conditions on your award or take other remedies as described by 2 CFR 200.339 through 200.343, if you do not comply with your award terms and conditions.

1. **Performance Sanctions.** A grantee or subrecipient violating the requirements in its grant agreement will be liable for such sanctions as authorized by law, including repayment of improperly used funds, termination of further participation in the FHIP, and denial of further participation in programs of HUD or any federal agency.
2. **Appeals.** In accordance with 2 CFR 200.340 and 200.342, if HUD terminates an award made under this NOFO, the grantee has a right to appeal the decision to terminate. To appeal a decision to terminate an award made under this NOFO, the grantee must, within 30 days of the notice of termination, send its appeal and all supporting information and documentation to AllAboutFHIP@hud.gov and the Director of FHIP. Within 30 days of receipt of the appeal, FHEO will communicate in writing to the grantee either: the decision on the appeal; a request for additional information or documentation; or a revised timeline for a decision.

D. Reporting

HUD requires recipients to submit performance, financial, and program reports as outlined below. You must comply with these reporting requirements to remain eligible for HUD funding. See Section VII.C. of this NOFO.
Further, the Recipient hereby acknowledges that HUD is in the process of implementing new grants management and reporting tools for all records pertinent to the Federal award. Recipient agrees to report on grant performance and financial activities (including vendor and cash disbursement supporting details for the Recipient and its Subrecipients) using these new tools when they are released and to satisfy occasional requests for records pertinent to the federal award, consistent with the requirements for recordkeeping, access to records, and reporting laid out in 2 CFR part 200, which may be amended from time to time. HUD will work with the Recipient to support its transition to the new reporting tools. HUD reserves the right to exercise all of its available rights and remedies for any noncompliance with these grants management and financial reporting requirements, to include, without limitation, requiring additional or more detailed financial reports, suspension of disbursements, and all other legally available remedies, to the furthest extent permitted by law.

Report	Description	When
Federal Funding Accountability and	• Awards equal to or greater than $30,000	See 2 CFR Appendix A to Part 170(a)(2)(ii)

Report	Description	When
Transparency Act (FFATA)	• Data on executive compensation and first-tier subawards • See Public Law 109-282 and 2 CFR part 170 • HUD reports initial prime recipient data to usaspending.gov • Submit via SAM.gov	
Reporting on Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters	• Total value of all current Federal awards exceeds $10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award • See Appendix XII to 2 CFR part 200 • Submit via SAM.gov	See 2 CFR Appendix-XII to Part 200 I.(d)
Progress Report	• Summary of progress status • Work to be performed during the next reporting period • Any anticipated risks and plans to mitigate those risks	Quarterly grant and financial activity reporting is required. Grantees are required to maintain appropriate records to support actual expenditures by budget line item of funds used.
Federal Financial Report, SF-425	• Summary of key financial data • See 2 CFR 200.328	See 2 CFR 200.328 or award terms
Race, Ethnicity, and Other Data Reporting	Recipients that provide HUD-funded program benefits to individuals or families, report	HUD 27061

Report	Description	When
	data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households funded by this program	
Single audit	• Single audit: annual expenditure equal to or greater than $1,000,000 in Federal awards • Required for the fiscal year in which the expenditure occurs • Financial statement audit and programmatic compliance evaluation Report at: www.fac.gov	See 2 CFR part 200 subpart F and Appendix XI to 2 CFR part 200

1. Program Specific Requirements.

   a. Recipients are required to submit quarterly reports and an annual report documenting achievement of outcomes under the purpose of the program and the work plan in the award agreement.

   b. **Quarterly Report/Final Report.** All grant recipients under this NOFO are required to submit quarterly progress and budget expenditure reports and a final report which identify their program's output and outcome achievements. Quarterly reports should contain responses to the following questions:

   (1) How many persons does the organization propose to serve? How is the estimate derived?
   (2) How many clients have been served/ reached based on your proposed number?
   (3) Have you completed the tasks required during the quarter in question, consistent with your approved SOW? If not, why?

   In quarterly reports and the final report, recipients will be required to report outcomes, evidence of continued project success, and meaningful data derived from client feedback on how they benefited from the organization's project activities in quarterly and final performance reports. These will be evaluated as part of the performance assessment. Additional report information may include but are not limited to: (1)

positive customer experience; (2) efficient and effective administrative costs; (3) high ethical standards; (4) overall positive community/target area changes; (5) innovative strategies that contribute to cost-effectiveness and other program improvements and success stories.

E. FHIP EOI Post Award Requirements

1. Payments and Reimbursement

a. Payment Contingent on Completion

HUD will make awards under this funding announcement. Accordingly, payments of FHIP funds are made based on the satisfactory and timely completion of your project activities, including the final product(s) and/or any reports to be produced as reflected in your grant agreement. Requests for funds must be accompanied by grant activity progress reports and financial reports showing actual expenditures compared to the budget.

b. Double Payments

If an applicant is awarded funds under this NOFO, the applicant (and any subrecipient or consultant) may not charge or claim credit for the activities performed under this project under any other Federally assisted project.

2. Organizational Requirements - Performance Standards

Applicants must maintain an annual performance assessment rating from the HUD as "good" or funding may be suspended until performance issues are resolved, and if unresolved, HUD has a right to rescind funding.

3. Programmatic Requirements

a. Grant Materials/Product Information

All grant-related materials to be publicly disseminated including press releases must be submitted to HUD for review and approval at least fifteen (15) days before intended first use.

b. Copyright Materials

You may copyright any work eligible for copyright protection subject to HUD's right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use your work for Federal purposes, and to authorize others to do so as required in 2 CFR 200.315.

c. Complaints Against Awardees

Each FHIP award is overseen by a HUD Grant Officer. Complaints from the public against FHIP grantees should be forwarded to the POC listed below in Section VIII. A. Agency Contact(s). If, after notice and consideration of relevant information, the Grant Officer concludes that there has been inappropriate conduct, such as a violation of FHIP requirements, terms or conditions of the grant agreement, or any other applicable requirement, HUD will take appropriate action. Such action may include: written reprimand; consideration of past performance in awarding future FHIP applications; repayment to HUD of funds received under the grant; or temporary or permanent denial of participation in FHIP under 24 CFR 24. In addition, HUD reserves its rights to pursue all rights and remedies under

2 CFR 200.339-200.243.

VIII. CONTACT AND SUPPORT

VIII. Contact and Support

A. Agency Contact

B. Grants.gov

C. Sam.gov

D. Debriefing

E. Applicant Experience Survey

F. Other Online Resources

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VIII. CONTACT AND SUPPORT

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals who have speech or communication disabilities may use a relay service. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, visit the webpage for the Federal Communications Commission.

A. Agency Contact

1. Program and Application Requirements

Name: Katherine Vasilopoulos

Phone: 202-402-8701

Email: Katherine.Vasilopoulos@hud.gov

Note: HUD's assistance is limited by the standards at 24 CFR 4.26.

2. Paper Application Waiver Request

Name: Katherine Vasilopoulos

Email: Katherine.Vasilopoulos@hud.gov

Phone: 202-402-8701

HUD Organization: FHEO

Street: 2415 Eisenhower Avenue

City: Alexandria

VA VIRGINIA

22314

HUD Reform Act. HUD is prohibited from disclosing covered selection information during the selection process. The selection process includes NOFO development and publication, and concludes with the announcement of selected recipients of financial assistance. HUD will not assist you with completing your application.

B. Grants.gov

Grants.gov provides 24/7 support. You can call 800-518-4726 or email support@grants.gov. Hold on to your ticket number.

C. SAM.gov

If you need help, you can call 866-606-8220 or live chat with the Federal Service Desk.

D. Debriefing

After public announcement of awards, HUD will debrief you on your application upon your written request. Submit your written request to the agency contact for program and application requirements in this NOFO. HUD may limit the information provided to protect the integrity of the competition.

Upon your written request, HUD will send you the total score earned by your application, as well as a list of scoring areas where points were frequently deducted from applications. HUD will conduct the debriefing in writing and may limit the information provided to protect the integrity of the competition.

E. Applicant Experience Survey

You are encouraged to provide feedback on your application experience by completing our Applicant Experience Survey. Your feedback is optional; you are not required to provide personal information. HUD may use your feedback to improve future NOFOs. Your feedback has no impact on funding decisions.

F. Other Online Resources

You are encouraged to review the online resources to learn background on some of the NOFO requirements.

APPENDIX

Appendix

Appendix I Definitions

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPENDIX

Appendix I. Definitions

1. Standard Definitions

For standard definitions not listed below, refer to 2 CFR 200.1.

Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) is the person with legal authority to: give assurances, make commitments, submit your application, and enter into agreements with HUD. They also have special permissions to act on behalf of their organization within the Grants.gov system.

Consolidated Plan has the same meaning as defined at 24 CFR part 91.

E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) is defined at Grants.gov.

Eligibility requirements are mandatory requirements for an application to be considered for funding.

Grants.gov is the website serving as the Federal government's central portal for searching and applying for federal financial assistance.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are any historically Black college or university included on this list of accredited HBCUs.

Primary Point of Contact (PPOC) is the person HUD may contact with questions about the application submitted. The PPOC is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

System for Award Management (SAM) has the same meaning as in 2 CFR 25.100(b).

Threshold Requirements are eligibility requirements you must meet before HUD rates your application for funding.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) has the same meaning as in 2 CFR 25.100(a).

2. Program Definitions.

Affiliate is a business entity effectively controlling or controlled by another or associated with others under common ownership or control.

Allegation is a claim of a violation of a fair housing law in effect within the applicant's service area.

Broad-based means not limited to a single fair housing issue (such as insurance, mortgage lending, or advertising) but rather covering more than one issue related to discrimination in the provision of housing covered under the Fair Housing Act.

Complaint is a filed fair housing complaint accepted by HUD or a Fair Housing Assistance Program agency as jurisdictional, or a complaint filed in a State or federal court alleging violations of the Fair Housing Act or equivalent State or local law.

Fair Housing Act (FHA) is Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 3601-3620).

Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) Agencies as described in 24 CFR Part 115 are State and local fair housing enforcement government agencies that receive FHAP funds to administer laws deemed substantially equivalent to the Fair Housing Act.

Fair Housing Enforcement Organization (FHO) is an organization engaged in fair housing activities, as defined in 24 CFR § 125.103.

Government Technical Monitor (GTM) means the HUD individual who has been designated to provide technical monitoring, advice, and assistance, to aid the GTR in the technical and

financial oversight and evaluation of the grantee's performance.

Government Technical Representative (GTR) means the HUD individual who is responsible for the technical administration of the grant, the evaluation of performance under the grant, the acceptance of technical reports or projects, and other such specific responsibilities as may be stipulated in the grant, and approval of payment.

Indirect Costs has the meaning in 2 CFR 200.1.

Intake is a fair housing allegation contact/query received by a fair housing organization. Intake does not include inquiries unrelated to fair housing, including general housing, inquires based solely on landlord/tenant matters, or others. Intakes may be in-person or by phone, mail or email contact and documented through the fair housing organization's standard intake form or database entry. Information gathered at intake starts the fair housing process. Repetitive contacts from a single individual may not be counted as an additional intake unless the contact contains a new allegation or relates to a new respondent. Intakes do not include someone returning a non-enforcement-related telephone call, a telemarketer calling the office, or incoming personal telephone calls.

Integration or Integrated Settings for purposes of the NOFO means, in the context of housing, settings that enable individuals with disabilities to live like individuals without disabilities. Integrated settings also enable individuals with disabilities to live independently with individuals without disabilities and without restrictive rules that limit their activities or impede their ability to interact with individuals without disabilities. Examples of integrated settings include scattered-site apartments providing permanent supportive housing, tenant-based rental assistance that enables individuals with disabilities to lease housing in integrated developments, and apartments for individuals with various disabilities scattered throughout public and multifamily housing developments. By contrast, segregated settings are occupied exclusively or primarily by individuals with disabilities. Segregated settings sometimes have qualities of an institutional nature, including, but not limited to, regimentation in daily activities, lack of privacy or autonomy, policies limiting visitors, limits on individuals' ability to engage freely in community activities and manage their own activities of daily living, or daytime activities primarily with other individuals with disabilities.

Jurisdiction under the Fair Housing Act is established when the complaint is filed in a timely manner; the complainant has apparent standing; the respondent and the dwelling involved (where the complaint involves a provision or denial of a dwelling) appear to be covered by the Fair Housing Act; and the subject matter and the basis of the alleged discrimination may constitute illegal practices as defined by the Fair Housing Act.

Operating Budget is an organization's total planned budget expenditures from all sources, including the value of in-kind and monetary contributions, in the period for which funding is requested.

Partnership is a collaboration with one or more identified agencies, task forces, FHAP organizations, or other groups to successfully realize the service or activity planned. A partnership may be formal and contractual with specific roles and deliverables defined, or less formal cooperation through volunteer efforts accomplished without a contract.

Qualified Fair Housing Enforcement Organization (QFHO) is an organization engaged in fair housing activities as defined in 24 CFR § 125.103.

Recipient has the meaning in 2 CFR 200.1.

Referral means referring to HUD or to a FHAP agency an intake, alleging possible violations of fair housing laws.

Regional/Local/Community-Based Activities are delineations of Education and Outreach Initiative activities defined at 24 CFR §125.301(d). Regional activities are implemented in

adjoining States or two or more units of general local government within a state. Local activities are those whose implementation is limited to a single unit of general local government, meaning a city, town, township, county, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State. Activities that are community-based in scope are those which are primarily focused on a particular neighborhood area within a unit of general local government.

Rural Areas include any of the following:

a. A non-urban place having fewer than 2,500 inhabitants (within or outside of the metropolitan areas).

b. A county or parish with an urban population of 20,000 or fewer inhabitants.

c. Territory, including its persons and housing units, in rural portions of "extended cities." The Census Bureau identifies the rural portions of extended cities.

d. Open country that is not part of or associated with an urban area. The United States Department of Agriculture describes "open country" as a site separated by open space from any adjacent densely populated urban area. Open space includes undeveloped land, agricultural land, or sparsely settled areas, but does not include physical barriers (such as rivers and canals), public parks, commercial and industrial developments, small areas reserved for recreational purposes, or open space set aside for future development.

e. Any place in whole or in part, not located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Statement of Work (SOW) is a document that describes all the tasks necessary to do the work of a project, including all the steps needed for good management control and specificity regarding work to be done and deliverables, dates and persons responsible for and/or assigned to such work, and provides a basis for mutual understanding of the requirements and tasks.

Subaward has the meaning in 2 CFR 200.1.

Subrecipient has the meaning in 2 CFR 200.1.

Underserved Areas are areas where there are no FHIP or FHAP agencies and/or where either no public or private fair housing organizations exist, or the jurisdiction is not sufficiently served by one or more public or private fair housing organizations and there is a need for service.

APPENDIX A

Appendix A. Statement of Work Chart – Sample Format

Instructions: Administrative Tasks listed are standard tasks; however an applicant may edit the section to fit the specific tasks necessary for the applicant's project. Each applicant should edit the Program Tasks section, and if needed add or remove tasks to propose a complete detailed SOW based on the specific enforcement and, as applicable EOI activities, proposed application, including all activities and tasks, and proposed outcomes.

Proposed Project:

The recipient, [insert organization name], agrees to undertake the following activities in accordance with its award for funding under the [insert Initiative/Component] for a ___month project, commencing on [insert start date] and ending on [insert end date] in [insert geographic area to be served].

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The recipient must describe a procedure to ensure that any complaints received are referred to HUD, and describe the safeguards used to ensure that complaints are jurisdictional.

All Initiatives- Activities and tasks in the SOW Chart must be discrete and measurable. [For example, Complete 3 outreach events to industry each quarter; OR Conduct one education event in Quarter 2; OR Produce and distribute to community organizations 100 fair housing flyers in Quarter 3].

PROJECT MATERIALS: Press releases and any other grant related materials intended to be disseminated to the public must be submitted to HUD for review and approval no later than 15 days before intended use, and in accordance with the provisions set forth in Schedule A of the grant agreement. As a rule, products created using grant funds shall be in the English language only. HUD acknowledges there may be exceptions to that rule; proposals for translation of materials into a language or languages other than English will be determined based upon need for each specific grant and specific deliverable(s) on a case-by-case basis, if requested in writing by the awardee.

HUD anticipates that products will be accessible for all program participants. HUD anticipates that program activities will be accessible to all participants/beneficiaries.

All activities and costs within the Statement of Work (SOW) and budget must be fair housing related activities, and must demonstrate a connection to furthering the nondiscrimination provisions of the Fair Housing Act.

Agendas, training materials, slide decks, etc for conferences and/or education events held or convened by the grantee using grant funds must be approved by HUD in advance of scheduling the event.

Staff training related to the grant is accomplished through FHIP $7500 set aside for HUD sponsored or approved training included in Other Direct Costs. All grant related training using FHIP funds must be approved by HUD. If you choose to include internal training of staff in the SOW, additional expenditures for training cannot be included in the project budget.

You should discuss your project purpose and proposed activities, persons to be served, geographical areas and methodology and their relation to HUD's policy priorities.

EOI funding is for EOI purposes only. EOI funds may not be used to support AEI, FHOI, or PEI activities.

Subcontracts - All subcontracts must be provided to HUD for review. HUD will review the subcontract and retains the right to disapprove a subcontractor/subrecipient.

Research Activities – Applicants are ineligible for funding if their project is aimed solely at research.

All - All services and activities must be available to all persons. All FHIP funded projects must address housing discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin - protected characteristics that are covered by the plain language of the federal Fair Housing Act. For example, the Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based only on the following specifically protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability. The Fair Housing Act does not include protections for sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; "source of income"; criminal records; weight and height; or limited English proficiency.

Fair Housing and Free Speech Apart from those protections that are afforded under both the Fair Housing Act and the First Amendment of the Constitution, specifically those relating to religious protections, none of the amounts made available under this NOFO may be used for enforcement related activities, including investigations, of speech or actions protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Such speech or actions include without limitation (a) the filing or maintaining of a non-frivolous legal action, and (b) activities engaged in for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a government official or entity. Amounts under this NOFO are solely for education and outreach activities relevant to right and claims covered

under the Fair Housing Act or that are ncognizable under the Fair Housing Act pursuant to equivalent state and local laws with rights and remedies consistent with the Fair Housing Act.

Performance Measure and Products – You must demonstrate how project activities will support HUD goals; and must identify measurable performance measures/outcomes in support of those goals.

Achieving Results and Program Evaluation – You must indicate specific outcomes and outputs to assess progress, evaluate program effectiveness, and identify program change.

Indirect Cost Rate - If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, you must use that rate and the appropriate base in this section. In all other instances, if you choose to utilize indirect costs you must include your current overhead rate, if any, which has been tailored to your organization's operating budget.

STATEMENT OF WORK

ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

FY2026 FHIP EOI Grant

This template lists Administrative and Program Tasks. You may edit the tasks to adapt to your proposed project, and you may add tasks as needed for the successful implementation and completion of your proposed project. If you propose hiring key personnel to fill project related positions, you must include an Administrative Task to recruit (advertise) and hire for the position, to provide HUD with the hiring notice and the resume of the selected applicant.

Activities/Tasks	**Deliverables/Measurable Outcomes**	**When Required to be Submitted**	**Key Personnel Responsible for submitting to HUD:**
1. Assign staff to project:	1. Names of persons assigned to project 2. Number of hours to be spent on project per person and percent of time.	30 days/Initial Report	
2. Submit Conflict of Interest	Submit copy of Conflict of Interest	30 days/Initial Report	
3. Submit Code of Conduct	Submit copy of Code of Conduct. Code of Conduct must be provided to HUD's Grants Management Office Library AskGMO@hud.gov	30 days/Initial Report	
4. Submit Continuity of Operations Plan - COOP	Submit copy of COOP	30 days/Initial Report	

5. Complete HUD-2880 Disclosure Statement.	Submit Disclosure Statement. If no changes occur, submit quarterly statement of no change.	Quarterly	
6. Complete HUD 27061 Race and Ethnic Data Reporting Form	Submit the completed form	Quarterly	
7. Complete SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.	Submit copy of SF-LLL. If no changes occur, submit quarterly statement of no change.	Quarterly	
8. Complete SF-425 Federal Financial Report and Cumulative Expenditure Reports	1. Submit copy of SF-425 2. Submit cumulative actual expenditure report with budget line item detail	Quarterly	
9. Submit voucher for payment.	Submit payment request to LOCCS.	Per Payment Schedule and HUD direction	
10. Complete Listing of Current or Pending Grants/Contracts/Other Financial Agreements	Submit Listing for Recipient and any subrecipients or contractors. Include staff time spent on all HUD grants	30 days and at end of Grant	
11. Submit executed Consultant or Subrecipient Agreements	Submit copies of executed agreements/contracts made with the parties working on the grant	Initial/30-days	
12. Submit written Quarterly Report	Submit the written status report and include a narrative for all activities.	Quarterly	
13. Send appropriate staff to HUD FHIP/FHAP training or other appropriate trainings as approved by HUD.	1. Names of training 2. staff who attended training 3. Dates of training	Quarterly	

14. Complete Final report and all program products produced under the grant	Provide a copy of the final report and all final products not previously submitted.	Within 120 days after the end of the grant term.	
15.			

**The Key Personnel Identified below must be staff included in your response to Rating Factor 1 and in the Budget.

KEY PERSONNEL	**TITLE**	**Percent of Time Allocated to Grant Activities**

PROGRAM TASKS

FY2026 FHIP EOI Grant. SAMPLE ONLY. Your list of Tasks must be based on your organization's individual proposed activities and tasks.

Activities/Tasks	**Deliverables/Measurable Outcomes**	**When Required to be Submitted**	**Key Personnel Responsible for submitting to HUD:**
1. Review/refine referral process to refer potential victims to HUD, DOJ, or a state or local agency or a private attorney.	Submit copy of referral process.	Initial/30 Days	
2. Contact HUD and/or other information sources to obtain any appropriate materials prior to development of new material. Task: List of materials requested and copy of final products.	Contact grant negotiator or designee.	Quarter 1	
3. Conduct at least xx outreach activities for _____, per quarter.	Provide dates, all agendas, materials to HUD for review and approval and following the event provide list of attendees, outcomes, etc.	Quarterly	

4. Conduct at least xx education events for _____, per quarter.	Provide dates, all agendas, materials to HUD for review and approval and following the event provide list of attendees, outcomes, etc.	Quarterly	
5. Conduct xx meetings with housing industry and/or government officials.	Provide dates, all agendas, materials to HUD for review and approval and following the event provide list of attendees, outcomes, etc.	Quarterly	
7.Develop partnership(s) with local university (or others) to develop and execute innovative approaches to fair housing education and outreach.	Provide dates, all agendas, materials to HUD for review and approval and following the event provide list of attendees, outcomes, etc.	Quarterly	
8. Conduct ___ fair housing workshops for members of the community/public and/or housing industry professionals.	Provide dates, all agendas, materials to HUD for review and approval and following the event provide list of attendees, outcomes, etc.	Quarterly	
9.			

APPENDIX B

Education and Outreach Application CERTIFICATION

WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§ 287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802).
In accordance with 24 CFR 125.103 (definitions) and 125.301 (Education and Outreach Initiative), which states:
§ 125.301 Education and Outreach Initiative.
(a) The Education and Outreach Initiative provides funding for the purpose of developing, implementing carrying out, or coordinating education and outreach programs designed to inform members of the public concerning their rights and obligations under the provisions of fair housing laws.

I_____, certify under penalty of perjury that

AOR Applicant name as it appears on SF-424

_____ is___/is not____ a private, tax-exempt,

Applicant Organization name as it appears on SF-424

nonprofit charitable organization with an IRS letter of determination confirming 501(c) status,

AND

I certify under penalty of perjury that _____ is

Applicant Organization name as it appears on SF-424

(select one)

____ a QFHO as defined by 24 CFR Part 125.103

____ an FHO as defined by 24 CFR Part 125.103

____ a Nonprofit organization representing groups of persons protected under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968

____ an agency of State or local government certified by the Secretary under section 810(f) of the Fair Housing Act

____ an other agency of State or local government that administers fair housing laws

____ or other public or private entity formulating or carrying out programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

And I further certify that, consistent with the requirements of 42 USC 3616a, if my organization is selected for an award, FHIP funding may not provide more than 50% of the operating budget of the recipient organization for any one year.

_____ _____

Authorized AOR Signature Date

****Additional Certification for National Media Campaign Component Only.** Applicants must have at least five years of experience as an advertising, media or public relations organization or must partner with an advertising and media services organization with at least five years of experience as an advertising public relations organization.

I_____ certify under penalty of perjury that applicant organization

Applicant AOR Named on the SF-424

_____has at least five years of experience as an advertising, media or public relations organization **OR**

will partner for the proposed project with _____, an advertising and media services organization with at least five years of experience as an advertising public relations organization.

_____ _____

Authorized Signature Date

WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§ 287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802).

NOTE: HUD will verify this certification through the organization's response to Factor 1. and other rating factor responses.

APPENDIX C

REQUIRED ABSTRACT – SAMPLE FORMAT - All applicants should use the format outlined in this Appendix as an example and as guidance to describe the organization's project. Please refrain from including charts and graphs in the abstract.

FY2026 NOFO ABSTRACT for:

The applicant,_____, if awarded, agrees to undertake

the following activities in accordance with its FY2026 application for funding in the amount of $_____ under the _____Initiative-_____ Component (if applicable) for a ____-month project commencing (month/year) in the geographic area of _____, Region ___.

(Insert Name of Applicant) **is/is not** (select one) a new FHIP applicant.

Award Description:

a. Purpose (up to 3,600 character limit)

b. Activities to be Performed (up to 4,900 character limit)

c. Expected Outcomes (up to 4,900 character limit)

d. Intended Beneficiaries (up to 3,600 character limit)

e. Subrecipient Activities, Or Indicate "None" if the applicant does not intend to use subawards (up to 1,000 character limit)

Award Description Key Words/Phrases	**Definitions**
Purpose	A brief summary of how and where the award funds will or may be used.
Activities To Be Performed	A list of eligible proposed activities that the applicant proposes to implement within the grant period of performance.
Expected Outcomes	A list of the proposed outcomes or performance measures for the grant award.
Intended Beneficiaries	A list of intended eligible beneficiaries or protected classes to be targeted through the grant award activities.
Subrecipient Activities	A list of eligible proposed activities that must be executed within the subaward's

	period of performance.