



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Policy Development and Research

HUDRD - HBCU Research Center of Excellence

FR-6600-N-29F

12/22/2022

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Program Office:

Policy Development and Research

Funding Opportunity Title:

HUDRD - HBCU Research Center of Excellence

Funding Opportunity Number:

FR-6600-N-29F

Assistance Listing Number:

14.536

Due Date for Applications:

12/22/2022

Summary

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Strategic Plan sets the direction and focus of our programs and staff to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality, affordable homes for all.

HUD's Strategic Goals

HUD's FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan lays out this administration's strategy for ensuring everyone has an affordable, healthy place to live. Over the course of the next four years HUD will pursue two overarching priorities focused on increasing equity and improving customer experience across all HUD programs. Five strategic goals undergird the Plan as follows:

- Strategic Goal 1: Support Underserved Communities
- Strategic Goal 2: Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing
- Strategic Goal 3: Promote Homeownership
- Strategic Goal 4: Advance Sustainable Communities
- Strategic Goal 5: Strengthen HUD's Internal Capacity

The five goals of the FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan present the core vision of what we hope to accomplish, the strategies to accomplish those objectives, and the indicators of success.

Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issues this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to invite applications from eligible applicants for the program and purpose described within this NOFO. Prospective applicants should carefully read all instructions in all sections to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible application. HUD funding is highly competitive. Failure to respond accurately to any submission requirement could result in an incomplete or noncompetitive proposal.

During the selection process HUD is prohibited from disclosing 1) information regarding any applicant's relative standing, 2) the amount of assistance requested by an applicant, and 3) any information contained in the application. Prior to the application deadline, HUD may not disclose the identity of any applicant or the number of applicants that have applied for assistance.

For Further Information Regarding this NOFO: Please direct questions regarding the specific

requirements of this NOFO to the office contact identified in Section VII.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement. The information collection requirements in this notice have been approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. Each NOFO will identify its applicable OMB control number unless its collection of information is excluded from these requirements under [5 CFR part 1320](#).

OMB Approval Number(s):
2528-0299

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION.

A. Program Description.

- **Purpose**

The purpose of this grant is to conduct research projects on multiple topics of strategic interest to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD's 2022-26 Learning Agenda (<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/HUD-Learning-Agenda.pdf>) identifies HUD's priority learning and research questions, consistent with the Departmental objectives and goals described in the 2022-26 Strategic Plan (<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CFO/documents/FY2022-2026HUDStrategicPlan.pdf>).

Research on topics highlighted in the Learning Agenda will enable the establishment of up to three additional Historically Black College and Universities Center(s) of Excellence (COE) or additional funding to a COE that received partial funding under the previous COE NOFO. In addition to the topics listed in the Learning Agenda, applicants are invited to submit research proposals including a broad range of topics related to the built environment. The following is not intended to be an exhaustive list of possible topics: building codes, standards, and construction technologies (including factory-built housing and components); land use planning and housing issues related to "green" construction and energy efficiency; disaster preparedness and climate resilient construction; and housing and community planning addressing the needs of multiple age, income, and accessibility groups. Topics may address retrofit or rehabilitation of existing structures, new construction, or both.

The research projects are intended to initiate an ongoing series of reports focused on housing, community, and economic development in underserved communities that can serve as national, local, or regional benchmarks and assist in support of COE(s) that expand the housing and community development research efforts at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). For benchmark comparisons, applicants are encouraged to consider the work of other university based housing research centers such as Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies, New York University's Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the University of Florida, and the Turner Center for Housing Innovation at the University of California Berkeley, that sometimes focus on national issues, but largely focus on local or regional housing and community development issues. The research projects, proposed by the awardee, will focus on topics of interest to the Department about underserved communities from the unique perspective of institutions that are often located in, and serve the residents of underserved communities.

The COE should take a multidisciplinary approach to housing and community development research, and through innovative methods study the social and economic factors that create healthy communities. Ultimately, the purpose of the COE should be to influence policy at the local, state, and national levels, providing evidence-based innovative approaches to community development based on research it undertakes.

In addition to identifying research projects, the awardee will be required to develop and submit a detailed plan for the development and long-term sustainment (beyond 5 years) of a Center of Excellence to carry on the work of the initial reports and to serve as a focus of thought leadership and alternative analysis of the issues related to underserved communities. The COE will serve as a platform for the formulation, analysis and dissemination of solutions utilizing alternatives to current academic theory and policy prescriptions to address problems confronting underserved communities. The COE will perform academic research, hold expert convenings, and conduct related activities designed to advance understanding of economic and social factors that affect communities, including housing, economic and workforce development, health and health care, education, civic engagement, public safety, and other dimensions of community health. Through academic programs, research projects and thought leadership, the COE will help leaders across all levels of government as well as the business and civic sectors address critical issues that impact the social and economic well-being of the families and individuals who reside in underserved urban and rural communities.

The challenges faced by underserved urban and rural communities are long-standing and complex and have defied conventional approaches for decades. HUD intends to fund research projects to initiate a series of benchmark reports that will apply new and context-specific approaches and methods to studying those challenges to develop innovative, evidence-based policy recommendations. HUD seeks applicants with demonstrated ability to conduct complex research and devise actionable policy recommendations. At the same time, HUD encourages applicants to propose building on their demonstrated experience to do something new and innovative. HUD encourages the submission of proposals that draw on novel research approaches, including big data analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence; and novel partnerships such as academic consortia, and collaboration with private entities or other federal agencies. Competitive applications will include action and sustainability plans, creative partnerships and collaboration models, multidisciplinary and holistic methodologies, and new or enhanced theory of change models designed to achieve transformative outcomes.

The funds made available under this NOFO will make awards for recipients to undertake multiple research projects. This will assist in the COE(s) ability to use this work to develop other streams of revenue and grant funding, including from private enterprise and private philanthropic organizations, to support on-going and sustainable operations and activities.

HUD is particularly interested in research that may include, as noted in the Presidential Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, a better understanding of the disparities in our laws and public policies, and in our public and private institutions, that may be denying equal housing and community building opportunity to individuals and communities and policy prescriptions that

might address these disparities, the results of which would widely be available for application in the field. The subjects addressed by the applicant should be framed by issues of barriers to improving the quality of life and creating paths to increased economic success in underserved communities while improving access to sustainability in rental and owner housing and other areas of investigation, particularly for minority residents. The research should take the view of both short- and long-term strategies. Research must be framed toward a long-term goal (e.g., improving minority homeownership). It may also include, but not limited to topics like:

- The production and availability of quality affordable housing;
- Impact studies, policy analysis and alternatives for housing and community and economic development initiatives focused on people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality; and
- Topics listed in the Learning Agenda mentioned earlier:
<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/HUD-Learning-Agenda.pdf>.

Eligible Activities

In support of the objectives listed in the section above, applicants are being asked to conduct multiple research projects on topics described in this NOFO that will assist in the creation of a sustainable Center(s) of Excellence for research which can undertake a variety of future research activities, including articulating research questions and establishing and implementing appropriate data analysis, communicating research findings, and producing informational tools and resources that improve practice and policy for a variety of issues confronting underserved communities.

Funds may be used to hire staff for center research and administration only. Rental and maintenance of office space is allowed only under the following conditions: 1) the lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible for a person with disabilities; 2) no repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with funds provided under this NOFO; 3) 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.

Funds may not be used for construction or other construction related activities or for the purchase of real property, equipment or furnishings.

Deliverables

At a minimum, HUD expects each award recipient to produce the following deliverables for the 36-month performance period:

- Research Policy Papers including, but not limited to multiple research projects on the subjects listed above; and
- Develop a detailed plan for the establishment, sustainability and ongoing financial stability of the center with particular emphasis on the elements of Rating Factors 2 and 4 below.

The Government Technical Representative (GTR) and/or other HUD staff as assigned by the GTR will have substantial involvement in this grant and will work closely with the awardee on defining these deliverables. HUD expects to have an opportunity to review and comment on these deliverables to ensure that they meet the project objectives.

Management and Work Plan (MWP): The MWP shall outline the overall strategy for completing the research within the budget and timeframe allotted. It will describe activities to be undertaken, assign staff, and provide a schedule of key tasks. A draft MWP must be submitted with the

application. After award, HUD will provide comments to the awardee and a final MWP must be submitted to HUD within two weeks of the receipt of HUD comments. A revised final budget may also be required with the final MWP.

1. Research Design (RD): The RD will describe and explain the methodology that will be used to complete the proposed effort including how you will collect, manage, and analyze the information and data. If appropriate, describe the plan for testing and data analysis, specifically relating those actions to the existing codes, standards, and protocols. After award, HUD will provide feedback and a final RD must be submitted to HUD within four weeks of the receipt of HUD comments.

2. Quality Control Plan (QCP): A draft QCP, which addresses all potential points of a Quality Control Lapse, shall be delivered within two weeks after grant award and the final QCP shall be submitted for GTR approval within six weeks of grant award. A comprehensive QCP shall be submitted to the GTR within five working days when changes are made thereafter. The awardee shall receive the GTR's acceptance in writing of any proposed change to its QCP.

3. Quarterly Progress Reports: Quarterly Progress Reports will document activities completed in the most recent reporting period, planned activities for the upcoming reporting period, and budget expenditures by line item (including hours worked for specific staff). Progress reports must be submitted quarterly and shall be aligned with the submission of draw down requests.

4. Draft Final Report - Applicants will also be required to submit a draft final report which summarizes the entire work, achievements, and findings conducted under award. This draft report will address the specific outcomes described in the applicant's proposal, the cooperative agreement award, achievement of project goals and metrics, and the management plan. The report format and style requirements are provided at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/About/style-guide-for-reports.pdf>. HUD will have 4 weeks to review the draft final report and return comments to the grantee.

5. Final Report - Applicants shall submit a final report that adequately addresses HUD's comments. This report is expected to be submitted just before the conclusion of the grant.

- **Changes from Previous NOFO.**

This NOFO will make up to three awards; the previous NOFO made up to two awards. The Research topics in this NOFO are listed in the Learning Agenda: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/HUD-Learning-Agenda.pdf>). The research topics in the previous NOFO were listed in the Funding Opportunity Description.

- **Definitions.**

- a. Standard Definitions

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH). Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination to overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunities, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty

into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all program participant's activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.

Assistance Listing number refers to the publicly available listing of Federal assistance programs managed and administered by the General Services Administration, formerly known as the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA). Assistance Listing is a unique number assigned to identify a Federal Assistance Listings, formerly known as the CFDA

Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) is the person authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Biz point of contact in the System for Award Management. The AOR is listed in item 21 on the SF-424.

Consolidated Plan is a document developed by states and local jurisdictions. This plan is completed by engaging in a participatory process to assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions with funding from formula grant programs. (See [24 CFR part 91](#) for HUD's requirements regarding the Consolidated Plan and related Action Plan).

Contract means, for the purpose of Federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a federal award. For additional information on contractor and subrecipient determinations, see [2 CFR 200.331](#).

Contractor means an entity that receives a contract as defined above and in [2 CFR 200.1](#).

Deficiency is information missing or omitted within a submitted application. Examples of deficiencies include missing documents, information on a form, or some other type of unsatisfied information requirement. Depending on specific criteria, deficiencies may be either Curable or Non-Curable.

- *Curable Deficiencies* may be corrected by the applicant with timely action. To be curable the deficiency must:
- Not be a threshold requirement, except for documentation of applicant eligibility;
- Not influence how an applicant is ranked or scored versus other applicants; and
- Be remedied within the time frame specified in the notice of deficiency.

Non-Curable Deficiencies cannot be corrected by an applicant after the submission deadline. Non-curable deficiencies are deficiencies that, if corrected, would change an applicant's score or rank versus other applicants. Non-curable deficiencies may result in an application being marked ineligible, or otherwise adversely affect an application's score and final determination.

DUNS Number is the nine-digit Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Number System identification number assigned to a business or organization by Dun & Bradstreet and provides a means of identifying business entities on a location-specific basis.

E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) A user registered as an organization applicant who is responsible for the administration and management of grant activities for his or her organization.

The E-Biz POC is likely to be an organization's chief financial officer or authorizing official. The E-Biz POC authorizes representatives of their organization to apply on behalf of the organization (see Standard AOR and Expanded AOR). There can only be one E-Biz POC per DUNS Number.

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

Expanded Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) An AOR is a member of your organization authorized by the EBiz POC to submit applications in Grants.gov on behalf of the organization. An applicant user with the Expanded AOR role is authorized to submit any applications on behalf of the organization and has privileges that allow the user to modify organization-level settings in Grants.gov.

Federal Financial Assistance means assistance that entities received or administer in the form of:

1. Grants;
2. Cooperative agreements (which does not include a cooperative research and development agreement pursuant to the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986, as amended (15 U.S.C. 3710a)).
3. Loans;
4. Loan guarantees;
5. Subsidies;
6. Insurance;
7. Food commodities;
8. Direct appropriations;
9. Assessed and voluntary contributions; and
10. Any other financial assistance transaction that authorizes the non-Federal entity's expenditure of Federal funds.
11. Federal financial assistance does not include amounts received as reimbursement for services rendered to individuals as described in section [200.502\(h\)](#) and (i). ([2 CFR 200.1](#))

Federal award, has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraph (i) or (ii) of this definition:

1. (i) The Federal financial assistance that a recipient receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or a subrecipient receives indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in [2 CFR §200.101](#); or
 - ii. The cost-reimbursement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulations that a non-Federal entity receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in [2 CFR §200.101](#).
2. The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (2) of the definitions of Federal financial assistance in [2 CFR §200.1](#), and this NOFO, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the Federal Acquisition Regulations.

3. Federal award does not include other contracts that a Federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate Federal Government owned, contractor operated facilities (GOCOs).
4. See also definitions of Federal financial assistance, grant agreement, and cooperative agreement in [2 CFR 200.1](#).

Grants.gov is the website serving as the Federal government's central portal for searching and applying for Federal financial assistance throughout the Federal government. Registration on Grants.gov is required for submission of applications to prospective agencies unless otherwise specified in this NOFO.

Green and Resilient Building Standard means an industry-recognized standard that has both:

a) achieved certification under (i) Enterprise Green Communities, (ii) LEED (New Construction, Homes, Midrise, Existing Buildings Operations and Maintenance, or Neighborhood Development), (iii) ICC-700 National Green Building Standard Green+ Resilience; or the (iv) Living Building Challenge, or (v) a regional standard such as Earth Advantage New Homes; or any other equivalent comprehensive green building program acceptable to HUD

And

b) meets minimum energy efficiency requirements, such as those defined in (i) ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes or Multifamily High-Rise), (ii) DOE Zero Energy Ready Home; (iii) regional or local certifications such as EarthCraft House, EarthCraft Multifamily; Greenpoint Rated New Home, Greenpoint Rated Existing Home (Whole House or Whole Building label); (iv) Passive House Institute Passive Building or EnerPHit certification from the Passive House Institute US (PHIUS), International Passive House Association.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as: "...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary of Education to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation." HBCUs offer all students, regardless of race, an opportunity to develop their skills and talents.

Non-Federal Entity (NFE) means a state, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE), or non-profit organization that carries out a federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

Point of Contact (POC) is the person who may be contacted with questions about the application submitted by the AOR. The POC is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

Recipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a federal award directly from HUD. The term recipient does not include subrecipients or individuals that are beneficiaries of the award.

Small business is defined as a privately-owned corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship that has fewer employees and less annual revenue than a corporation or regular-sized business.

The definition of “small”—in terms of being able to apply for government support and qualify for preferential tax policy—varies by country and industry. The U.S. Small Business Administration defines a small business according to a set of standards based on specific industries. See [13 CFR Part 121](#).

Standard Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) An AOR is a member of your organization authorized by the EBiz POC to submit applications in Grants.gov on behalf of the organization. An applicant user with the Standard AOR role can only submit applications when they are a Participant of that workspace.

Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

Subrecipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a federal award but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other federal awards directly from a federal awarding agency.

System for Award Management (SAM) is the Federal Repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Registration with SAM is required for submission of applications via Grants.gov. You can access the website at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>. There is no cost to use SAM.

Threshold Requirements are an eligibility requirement that must be met for an application to be reviewed. Threshold requirements are not curable, except for documentation of applicant eligibility and are listed in Section III.D Threshold Eligibility Requirements. Similarly, there are eligibility requirements under Section III.E, Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify business entities.

- Program Definitions.

Program theory: A program theory or logic model explains how the activities of an intervention are understood to contribute to a chain of results (short-term outputs, medium-term outcomes) that produce ultimate intended or actual impacts.

Theory of Change: Theory of Change is a comprehensive description and illustration of how and why a desired change is expected to happen in a particular context. It is focused in particular on mapping out or “filling in” what has been described as the “missing middle” between what a program or change initiative does (its activities or interventions) and how these lead to desired goals being achieved.

B. Authority.

This program is authorized by Sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. §1701z-1 and §1701z-2) and funding is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103, approved March 15, 2022).

II. Award Information.

A. Available Funds

Funding of approximately **\$5,500,000** is available through this NOFO.

Additional funds may become available for award under this NOFO. Use of these funds might be subject to statutory constraints or other requirements. All awards are subject to the funding restrictions contained in this NOFO.

Subject to appropriations, HUD also reserves the right to award FY 2023 funds based on this NOFO competition pursuant to Section VI.A.d.

B. Number of Awards.

HUD expects to make approximately 3 awards from the funds available under this NOFO.

HUD intends to make up to three awards totaling \$5,500,000 (maximum \$4,000,000 and no less than \$1,500,000), to conduct research projects on multiple topics of strategic interest to HUD to assist in the establishment of Innovative Research Center(s) of Excellence (COE) at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) focused on housing, community, and economic development in underserved communities.

C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information

Estimated Total Funding:

\$5,500,000

Minimum Award Amount:

\$1,500,000

Per Project Period

Maximum Award Amount:

\$4,000,000

Per Project Period

D. Period of Performance

N/A

Estimated Project Start Date:

02/06/2023

Estimated Project End Date:

02/06/2026

Length of Project Periods:

36-month project period and budget period

Length of Periods Explanation of Other:
N/A

E. Type of Funding Instrument.

Funding Instrument Type:
CA (Cooperative Agreement)

III. Eligibility Information.

A. Eligible Applicants.

06 (Public and State controlled institutions of higher education)

20 (Private institutions of higher education)

Additional Information on Eligibility

Eligible organizations include all Historically Black Colleges and Universities as defined in Section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Only Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) are eligible to compete for, or receive awards made under this announcement.

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary (of Education) to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.

B. Ineligible Applicants.

Applicants that are not Historically Black Colleges and Universities as defined in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

C. Cost Sharing or Matching.

This Program does not require cost sharing or matching.

N/A

D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements.

Applicants who fail to meet any of the following threshold eligibility requirements will be deemed ineligible. Applications from ineligible applicants will not be evaluated.

1. Resolution of Civil Rights Matters. Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved before the application deadline. Applicants, who after review are confirmed to have civil rights matters unresolved at the application deadline, will be deemed ineligible. Their applications will receive no further review, will not be rated and ranked, and they will not receive funding.

- a. Applicants having any of the charges, cause determinations, lawsuits, or letters of findings referenced in subparagraphs (1) – (5) that have not been resolved to HUD’s satisfaction before or on the application deadline date are ineligible for funding. Such matters include:
 1. Charges from HUD concerning a systemic violation of the Fair Housing Act or receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing law proscribing discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status;
 2. Status as a defendant in a Fair Housing Act lawsuit filed by the United States alleging a pattern or practice of discrimination or denial of rights to a group of persons raising an issue of general public importance under 42 U.S.C. 3614(a);
 3. Status as a defendant in any other lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice, or in which the Department of Justice has intervened, or filed an amicus brief or statement of interest, alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of 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 a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair housing, non-discrimination, or civil rights generally including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing;
 4. Receipt of a letter of findings identifying systemic non-compliance with 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; or the Americans with Disabilities Act; or
 5. Receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of provisions of a state or local law prohibiting discrimination in housing based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or lawful source of income.
- b. HUD will determine if actions to resolve the charge, cause determination, lawsuit, or letter of findings taken before the application deadline date will resolve the matter. Examples of actions that may be sufficient to resolve the matter include, but are not limited to:
 1. Current compliance with a voluntary compliance agreement signed by all the parties;
 2. Current compliance with a HUD-approved conciliation agreement signed by all the parties;
 3. 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;
 4. Current compliance with a consent order or consent decree;
 5. Current compliance with a final judicial ruling or administrative ruling or decision; or
 6. Dismissal of charges.

2. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. With some exceptions for federally recognized Indian tribes and their instrumentalities, the application must discuss how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations. Applicants may propose activities that are consistent with their jurisdiction’s Analysis of Impediments (AI), an Assessment of Fair

Housing (AFH), or other means of fair housing planning that meaningfully supports their AFFH certification.

If the applicant will carry out proposed activities in a jurisdiction with an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), the proposed activities should be consistent with the AFH's fair housing goals and with fair housing strategies specified in the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan or Public Housing Agency Plan."

3. Timely Submission of Applications. Applications submitted after the deadline stated within this NOFO that do not meet the requirements of the grace period policy will be marked late. Late applications are ineligible and will not be considered for funding. See Section IV. D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Grants Programs

The following requirements affect applicant eligibility. Detailed information on each requirement is posted on [HUD's Funding Opportunities Page](#).

- Active Prime and Sub Recipient registration with SAM.gov
- Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts
- Debarments or Suspensions, or both
- Pre-selection Review of Performance
- Sufficiency of Financial Management System
- False Statements
- Mandatory Disclosure Requirement
- Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities
- In addition, each applicant under this NOFO must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the Award Term in Appendix A of [24 CFR part 170](#) if the applicant receives an award, unless an exception applies as provided in [2 CFR 170.110](#).

F. Program-Specific Requirements.

N/A

G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.

N/A

IV. Application and Submission Information.

A. Obtaining an Application Package.

Instructions for Applicants.

You must download both the Application Instructions and the Application Package from Grants.gov. You must verify that the Assistance Listing Number and Assistance Listing Description on the first page of the Application Package, and the Funding Opportunity Title and the Funding Opportunity Number match the Program and NOFO to which you are applying. The Application Package contains the portable document forms (PDFs) available on Grants.gov, such as the SF-424 Family. The Instruction Download contains official copies of the NOFO and forms necessary for a complete application. The Instruction Download may include Microsoft Word files, Microsoft Excel files, and additional documents.

An applicant demonstrating good cause may request a waiver from the requirement for electronic submission, for example, a lack of available Internet access in the geographic area in which your business offices are located. Lack of SAM registration or valid DUNS/UEI is not good cause. If you cannot submit your application electronically, you must ask in writing for a waiver of the electronic grant submission requirements. HUD will not grant a waiver if the Applicant fails to submit to HUD in writing or via email a request for a waiver at least 15 calendar days before the application deadline. If HUD grants a waiver, a paper application must be received before the deadline for this NOFO. To request a waiver, you must contact:

Name:

Kinnard Wright

Email:

Kinnard.D.Wright@hud.gov

HUD Organization:

PDR

Street:

451 7th Street, SW

City:

Washington

State:

DC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Zip:

20410

N/A

B. Content and Form of Application Submission.

You must verify that boxes 11, 12, and 13 on the SF-424 match the NOFO for which you are applying. If they do not match, you have downloaded the wrong Application Instruction and Application Package.

Submission of an application that is otherwise sufficient, under the wrong Assistance Listing and Funding Opportunity Number is Non-Curable unless otherwise stated under the Threshold requirements section.

1. Content.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
HUD Applicant Recipient Disclosure Report (HUD) 2880 Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report	Submission is required for all applicants by the	

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
	application due date.	
Application for Federal Assistance (SF424)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Required for all applications.
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SFLLL), if applicable	HUD will provide instructions to grantees on how the form is to be submitted.	If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the applicant shall complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Applicants must furnish an executed copy of the Certification Regarding Lobbying prior to award.
HUD424CBW	Form Included in Instructions Zip	Include a total budget supporting cost justification of up to four pages, which will cover all budget categories of the federal grant request.

Additionally, your complete application must include the following narratives and non-form attachments.

2. Format and Form.

Narratives and other attachments to your application must follow the following format guidelines.

25 Pages maximum length of narratives

Double spaced 12-point (minimum) Times Roman font on letter sized paper (8 1/2 x 11 inches) with at least 1-inch margins on all sides

- a. Application Abstract (two-page maximum, see par. 3, below for the page layout requirements). An abstract with the project title, the names and affiliations of all

investigators; identification of partner organizations; a summary of the research objectives, study design, and expected results, and the total funds requested, must be included in the proposal. Information contained in the abstract will not be considered in the evaluation and scoring of your application and will not be counted towards the 25-page maximum. Any information you wish to be considered in scoring of the application must be provided under the appropriate rating factor response.

- b. **Response to Rating Factors (25-page limit).** A project description/narrative statement addressing the rating factors for award, which are identified in section V.A.1. The narrative statement must be identified in accordance with each factor for award (Rating Factors 1 through 5). The full application must be formatted as per section IV.B.2. The project description or narrative must be included in the responses to the rating factors. Any description/narrative in excess of this 25-page limit will not be read. The points you receive for each rating factor will be based on the portion of your narrative statement that you submit in response to that particular factor, supplemented by any appendices that are referenced in your narrative response to the rating factor. Supporting materials that are not referenced or discussed in your responses to the individual rating factors will not be considered. Additional materials (e.g., appendices) can be submitted with your application. The footer on the pages of these materials should identify the rating factor that they are supporting.
- c. **Supporting Materials.** Include, as appendices the following materials that are needed to support your responses to the rating factors. These will not be counted towards the Rating Factors narrative 25-page limit:
 - 1. The resumes of the principal investigator and other key personnel. Each resume shall not exceed three pages and is limited to information that is relevant in assessing the qualifications and experience of key personnel to conduct and/or manage the proposed technical study.
 - 2. Organizational chart
 - 3. Letters of commitment
 - 4. List of references cited in your responses to the rating factors.
- d. **Additional Information.** The additional optional materials must not exceed 20 pages. Any pages in excess of this limit will not be read. Do not include additional narrative information that is an extension of or expands upon any of your rating factor responses. Such narrative will not be considered.
- e. **Budget.** Include a total budget using form HUD424CBW, included in the Instructions download at Grants.gov with supporting cost justification of up to four pages, which will cover all budget categories of the federal grant request. This information will not be counted towards the Rating Factors narrative 25-page limit. Use the budget format discussed in Rating Factor (3), Section V.A.1.b below. In completing the budget forms and justification, you should address the following elements:
 - 1. Direct Labor costs, including all full- and part-time staff required for the planning and implementation phases of the project. These costs should be based on full time equivalent (FTE) or hours per year (hours/year) (i.e., one FTE equals 2,080 hours/year);
 - 2. Allowance for two trips to HUD Headquarters in Washington, DC, during the period of performance of your grant, planning each trip for 1-2 people, as needed.

- In planning your trips, you should assume one or two overnight stays depending on your location;
3. A separate budget form and justification for each sub-recipient receiving more than 10 percent of the total federal budget request;
 4. Supporting documentation for salaries and prices of materials and equipment, upon request.

C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

1. SAM Registration Requirement.

Applicants must be registered with <https://www.sam.gov/> before submitting their application. Applicants must maintain current information in SAM on immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable. Information in SAM must be current for all times during which the applicant has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by HUD.

2. UEI Requirement.

Applicants must provide a valid UEI, registered and active at [/www.sam.gov/](https://www.sam.gov/) in the application. For more information, see: <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-systems-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update>.

The DUNS number remained the official identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government only until April 4, 2022. As of April 4, 2022, entities doing business with the federal government must use the Unique Entity Identifier created in SAM.gov.

3. Requirement to Register with Grants.gov.

Anyone planning to submit applications on behalf of an organization must register at grants.gov and be approved by the E-Biz POC in SAM to submit applications for the organization. Registration for SAM and grants.gov is a multi-step process and can take four (4) weeks or longer to complete if data issues arise. Applicants without a valid registration cannot apply through grants.gov. Complete registration instructions and guidance are provided on grants.gov.

D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

Application Due Date Explanation

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

12/22/2022

Submit your application to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit a paper application. Instructions for submitting your paper application will be contained in the waiver of electronic submission.

"Received by Grants.gov" means the applicant received a confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number from Grants.gov. Grants.gov then assigns an application tracking number and date-and timestamp each application upon successful receipt by the Grants.gov system. A submission attempt not resulting in confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number is not considered received by Grants.gov.

Applications received by Grants.gov must be validated by Grants.gov to be received by HUD.

"Validated by Grants.gov" means the application has been accepted and was not rejected with errors. You can track the status of your application by logging into Grants.gov, selecting "Applicants" from the top navigation, and selecting "Track my application" from the dropdown list. If the application status is "rejected with errors," you must correct the error(s) and resubmit the application before the 24-hour grace period ends. Applications in "rejected with errors" status after the 24-hour grace period expires will not be received by HUD. Visit Grants.gov for a complete description of processing steps after applying.

HUD strongly recommends you submit your applications at least **48 hours before the deadline** and during regular business hours to allow enough time to correct errors or overcome other problems.

Grants.gov Customer Support. Grants.gov provides customer support information on its website at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>. Applicants having difficulty accessing the application and instructions or having technical problems can receive customer support from Grants.gov by calling (800) 518-GRANTS (this is a toll-free number) or by sending an email to support@grants.gov. The customer support center is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, except Federal holidays. The phone number above may also be reached by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities, through the Federal Relay Service's teletype service at (800)-877-8339.

You can verify the contents of your submitted application to confirm Grants.gov received everything you intended to submit. To verify the contents of your submitted application:

- Log in to Grants.gov.
- Click the Check Application Status link, which appears under the Grant Applications heading in the Applicant Center page. This will take you to the Check Application Status page.
- Enter search criteria and a date range to narrow your search results.
- Click the Search button. To review your search results in Microsoft Excel, click the Export Data button.
- Review the Status column, to view more detailed submission information, click the Details link in the Actions column.
- To download the submitted application, click the Download link in the Actions column.

Please make note of the Grants.gov tracking number, it will be needed by the Grants.gov Help Desk if you seek their assistance.

HUD may extend the application deadline for any program if Grants.gov is offline or not available to applicants for at least 24 hours immediately prior to the deadline date, or the system is down for 24 hours or longer and impacts the ability of applicants to cure a submission deficiency within the grace period.

HUD may also extend the application deadline upon request if there is a presidentially declared disaster in the applicant's area.

If these events occur, HUD will post a notice on its website establishing the new, extended deadline for the affected applicants. HUD will also include the fact of the extension in the program's NOFO required to be published in the Federal Register.

In determining whether to grant a request for an extension based on a presidentially declared disaster, HUD will consider the totality of the circumstances including the date of an applicant's extension request (how closely it followed the basis for the extension), whether other applicants in the geographic area are similarly affected by the disaster, and how quickly power or services are restored to enable the applicant to submit its application.

PLEASE NOTE: Busy servers, slow processing, large file sizes, improper registration or password issues are not valid circumstances to extend the deadline dates or the grace period.

1. Amending or resubmitting an application.

Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised application containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline.

If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline.

2. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions.

If your application is received by Grants.gov before the deadline, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of 24 hours after the application deadline to submit a corrected, received, and validated application through Grants.gov. The date and time stamp on the Grants.gov system determines the application receipt time. Any application submitted during the grace period not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications.

3. Late Applications.

An application received after the NOFO deadline date that does not meet the Grace Period requirements will be marked late and will not be reviewed by HUD for funding consideration. Improper or expired registration and password issues are not sufficient cause to allow HUD to accept applications after the deadline date.

4. Corrections to Deficient Applications.

HUD will not consider information from applicants after the application deadline except for curable deficiencies.

HUD will uniformly notify applicants of each curable deficiency. See curable deficiency in the definitions section (Section I.A). Examples of curable (correctable) deficiencies include inconsistencies in the funding request and failure to submit required certifications. These examples are non-exhaustive.

When HUD identifies a curable deficiency, HUD will notify the authorized organization representative identified on the SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance via email. This email is the official notification of a curable deficiency.

Applicants must email corrections of Curable Deficiencies to applicationsupport@hud.gov within the time limits specified in the notification. The time allowed to correct deficiencies will be no less than 48 hours and no more than 14 calendar days from the date of the email notification. The start of the cure period will be the date stamp on the email sent from HUD. If the deficiency cure deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Federal holiday, or on a day when HUD's Headquarters are closed, then the applicant's correction must be received on the next business day HUD Headquarters offices in Washington, DC are open.

The subject line of the email sent to applicationsupport@hud.gov must state: Technical Cure and include the Grants.gov application tracking number or the GrantSolutions application number (e.g., Subject: Technical Cure - GRANT123456 or Technical Cure - XXXXXXXXXXXX). If this information is not included, HUD cannot match the response with the application under review and the application may be rejected due to the deficiency.

Corrections to a paper application must be sent in accordance with and to the address indicated in the notification of deficiency. HUD will treat a paper application submitted in accordance with a waiver of electronic application containing the wrong UEI/DUNS number as having a curable deficiency. Failure to correct the deficiency and meet the requirement to have a UEI/DUNS number and active registration in SAM will render the application ineligible for funding.

5. **Authoritative Versions of HUD NOFOs.** The version of these NOFOs as posted on Grants.gov are the official documents HUD uses to solicit applications.
6. **Exemptions.** Parties that believe the requirements of the NOFO would impose a substantial burden on the exercise of their religion should seek an exemption under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

E. Intergovernmental Review.

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

F. Funding Restrictions.

Subject to appropriations, HUD also reserves the right to award FY 2023 funds based on this NOFO competition pursuant to Section VI.A.d.

Indirect Cost Rate.

Normal indirect cost rules under [2 CFR part 200, subpart E](#) apply. If you intend to charge indirect costs to your award, your application must clearly state the rate and distribution base you intend to use. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must also include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. Successful applicants whose rate changes after the application deadline must submit the new rate and documentation to assure the award agreement incorporates the applicable rate.

Applicants other than state and local governments. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must clearly state the approved rate and distribution base and must include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. If your organization does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate and elects to use the de minimis rate, your application must clearly state you intend to use the de minimis

rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). As described in [2 CFR 200.403](#), costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until the organization chooses to negotiate a rate, which the organization may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

State and local governments. If your department or agency unit 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. If your department or agency unit receives more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year, you may not claim indirect costs until you receive a negotiated rate from your cognizant agency for indirect costs as provided in Appendix VII to [2 CFR Part 200](#).

If your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and your department or agency unit has developed and maintains an indirect cost rate proposal and supporting documentation for audit in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, you may use the rate and distribution base specified in that indirect cost rate proposal. Alternatively, if your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate, you may elect to use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC. As described in [2 CFR 200.403](#), costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until your department or agency chooses to negotiate for a rate, which you may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

G. Other Submission Requirements.

Application, Assurances, Certifications and Disclosures.

Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Application for Federal Assistance is the government-wide form required to apply for Federal assistance programs, discretionary Federal grants, and other forms of financial assistance programs. Applicants for this Federal assistance program must submit all required forms in the SF-424 Family of forms, including SF-424B (Assurances of Non construction Programs) or SF-424D (Assurances for Construction Programs). Applications receiving funds for both non-construction programs and construction programs must submit both the SF-424B and SF-424D.

By signing the forms in the SF-424 either through electronic submission or in paper copy submission (for those granted a waiver), the applicant and the signing authorized organization representative affirm that they have reviewed the certifications and assurances associated with the application for Federal assistance and (1) are aware the submission of the SF-424 is an assertion that the relevant certifications and assurances are established and (2) acknowledge that the truthfulness of the certifications and assurances are material representations upon which HUD will rely when making an award to the applicant. If it is later determined the signing authorized organization representative to the application made a false certification or assurance,

caused the submission of a false certification or assurance, or did not have the authority to make a legally binding commitment for the applicant, the applicant and the individual who signed the application may be subject to administrative, civil, or criminal action. Additionally, HUD may terminate the award to the applicant organization or pursue other available remedies. Each applicant is responsible for including the correct certifications and assurances with its application submission, including those applicable to all applicants, those applicable only to Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaskan native villages and those applicable to applicants other than federally recognized Indian tribes or Alaskan native villages.

Assurances.

By submitting your application, you provide assurances that, if selected to receive an award, you will comply with U.S. statutory and other requirements, including, but not limited to civil rights requirements. Upon receipt of an award, you, and any recipients and subrecipients of the award are also required to submit assurances of compliance with federal civil rights requirements. *See, e.g.,* Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; *see also* [24 C.F.R. §§ 1.5; 3.115; 8.50](#); and [146.25](#). HUD accepts these assurances in the form of the SF-424B and SF-424D, which also require compliance with all general federal nondiscrimination requirements in the administration of the grant.

Applicant Disclosure Report form 2880.

Required for each applicant applying for assistance within the jurisdiction of HUD to any housing project subject to Section 102(d). Assistance is provided directly by HUD to any person or entity, but not to subrecipients. It includes assistance for the acquisition, rehabilitation, operation conversion, modernization, renovation, or demolition of any property containing five or more dwelling units that is to be used primarily for residential purposes. It includes assistance to independent group residences, board and care facilities, group homes and transitional housing but does not include primarily nonresidential facilities such as intermediate care facilities, nursing homes and hospitals. It also includes any change requested by a recipient in the amount of assistance previously provided, except changes resulting from annual adjustments in Section 8 rents under Section 8(c)(2)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 ([42 U.S.C. 1437f](#)). *See* [HUD Reform Act regulation for additional information](#).

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

With some exceptions for federally recognized Indian tribes and their instrumentalities, the application must discuss how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations. Applicants may propose activities that are consistent with their jurisdiction's Analysis of Impediments (AI), an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), or other means of fair housing planning that meaningfully supports their AFFH certification.

If the applicant will carry out proposed activities in a jurisdiction with an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), the proposed activities should be consistent with the AFH's fair housing goals and with fair housing strategies specified in the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan or Public Housing Agency Plan

V. Application Review Information.

A. Review Criteria.

1. Rating Factors.

Rating Factors.

Rating Category	Rating Factor	Points
Capacity		25
	Knowledge and Experience	15
	Past Performance	10
Scientific Aims and Vision		15
Soundness of Approach		35
	Methodology	15
	Quality of Implementation Plan	20
Resources and Partnerships		25
	Quality of Sustainment Plan	10
	Partnerships, Leveraged Funds and Collaborations	15
Preference Points	An applicant partnering with a Historically Black College or University (HBCU)	2
	Total	102

Rating Factors

Each of the four factors is weighted as indicated by the number of points that are assigned to it. The maximum score that can be attained is 102 points. Applicants should be certain that each of these factors is adequately addressed in the project description and accompanying materials. To the extent feasible, include all of the needed information within your response to each rating factor. If your response to a particular rating factor cites information provided in your response to another rating factor, clearly indicate where the information is located so that the reviewer can easily locate it. Your response to the rating factors should be submitted on consecutively numbered pages. Applicant will be selected based on highest score. The minimum score for funding consideration is 75 points.

Rating Factor 1: **Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Experience: Maximum Points = 25**

This factor addresses the extent to which the institution has the capacity to successfully implement the proposed three research projects in a timely manner.

- a. Knowledge and Experience
 - 1. Identify and describe the knowledge and experience of key project team members such as the proposed COE Director, participating faculty and key staff.
 - 2. Describe the academic programs relevant to the institution's approach to implementing the research projects, and the research experience of key faculty involved (relevant to the proposed research projects, other research, or the COE approach).
- b. Past Performance
 - 1. List all HUD grants received in the last 10 years, including the dollar amount awarded and a description of the achievement of specific tasks, measurable objectives, and specific outcomes consistent with the work plan.
 - 2. Identify grants from HUD or other entities that were performed by key personnel who will be assigned to the COE research projects.
 - 3. Identify up to five grants that demonstrate capacity in fields related to the institution's vision for the COE and proposed research projects. Provide dollar amount awarded and descriptions of the achievement of specific tasks, measurable objectives and specific outcomes.

Rating Factor 2: Scientific Aims and Vision: Maximum Points = 15

This factor addresses the approach the applicant will take to achieve the vision of innovation in the proposed holistic community development research.

- 1. Describe the factors that indicate community distress or health and the proposed definition of "underserved communities".
- 2. Describe how the proposed COE intends to approach the research of those factors. Applications will be rated based on quality of approach, employment of effective program theory models or theory of change models, (see definitions p. 8), and research that leads to transformative outcomes for targeted populations and communities.

3. Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach to Addressing the Research Studies:

Maximum Points = 35

a. Methodology

Applicants should provide a clear discussion of how the research design will approach the problem of analyzing problems and issues identified in Rating Factor 1. Applicants will be assessed based on the extent to which the draft research design provides a methodologically sound and realistic approach for the proposed research.

1. Specific research questions and hypotheses that will be investigated by the proposed research.
2. Discussion of data sources required, the reliability and availability of those data sources, strategies for obtaining required data, and methods for analyzing the data to address the research questions and hypotheses. If the applicant proposes the collection of original data (such as surveys or interviews), the draft research design must discuss sampling strategy.

b. Quality of Implementation Plan

This factor addresses the quality and effectiveness of the proposed research implementation plan and the commitment of the institution to enable the research to spur the creation of the proposed Center of Excellence (COE). This factor will be evaluated based on the extent to which the proposed research implementation plan demonstrates the following:

1. How will the research produce widely read, highly anticipated national benchmarks that assess the state of underserved communities throughout the United States on a yearly basis.
2. Describe how the research activities will be continued? What are the short-term objectives and its 3- and 5-year goals?

4. Rating Factor 4: Resources and Partnerships:

Maximum Points = 25

This factor addresses the ability of the applicant to secure resources that can be combined with HUD's funds to achieve the grant's purpose and sustain the research effort over the long term. In evaluating this factor, HUD will consider how well the applicant has established partnerships with other entities to secure additional resources and capabilities to increase the effectiveness of the proposed research. Maximum points will only be awarded to applicants with high quality and realistic sustainment plan fully supported by firm commitments.

Resources may include funding or in-kind contributions, such as services or equipment allocated for the purpose of the proposed research. Generally, Federal sources are not allowed to be used as cost share or match unless otherwise permitted by a program's authorizing statute.

a. Quality of Sustainment plan

1. Describe the institution's long-term sustainment plan (beyond 5 years) for the research effort, including promotion, grant fund leveraging, philanthropic development and revenue generation.

2. Describe how the institution will further develop its long-term sustainment plan during the grant period.

b. Partnerships, Leveraged Funds, and Collaboration

List how funds have been and will be obtained including: creative in-kind contributions (facilities, faculty, subject matter experts, etc.), from the university, private philanthropic organizations, private enterprise, or other government agencies and provide Letters of commitment including:

1. Name of the organization and authorizing official.
2. Amount of cash contributed or dollar value of the in-kind contribution.
3. Specific description of how each contribution will be used.
4. The date the contribution will be available and the duration of the contribution.
5. Any other terms or conditions affecting the contribution.
6. Include written commitment letters, memoranda of understanding or agreement that show the extent and firm commitment of resources.
7. Partnerships and Collaborations with other HBCUs (to obtain preference points), and collaborations with other organizations and institutions.

1. Describe innovative collaborations, including but not limited to academic consortia and partnerships with other federal agencies or private entities. Provide letters of commitment including the following information for each:

- a. Name of the organization and authorizing official.
- b. Nature of the partnership or collaboration.
- c. Specific description of how each partnership contributes to the approach and objectives of the research efforts.
- d. The date the partnership will begin and its term.
- e. Any other terms or conditions affecting the partnership.

2. Include commitment letters, memoranda of understanding or agreement that show the extent and firm commitment to the project.

Maximum Points: 102

2. Other Factors.

This program does not offer points for Section 3.

Preference Points

HUD encourages activities in support of the interdepartmental initiatives. HUD may award no more than four total preference points for a combination of any of the four (4) preferences (Climate Change, Environmental Justice, Promise Zones (PZ) or Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). Each preference is worth up to two (2) points. For example, points may be awarded for Climate Change and Environmental Justice, or for Promise Zones and HBCUs.

This program does not offer points for Climate Change

This program does not offer points for Environmental Justice

HBCU.

An applicant partnering with a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) will receive up to two (2) Preference Points when the application includes a Letter of Commitment certifying that an HBCU Partnership is in place and signed by an authorizing official of the HBCU and documentation of the college or university's status as an HBCU. [Click here to view the list of accredited HBCU's](#)

Promise Zones

This program does not offer Promise Zone preference points.

B. Review and Selection Process.

1. Past Performance

In evaluating applications for funding, HUD will consider an applicant's past performance in managing funds. Items HUD will consider include, but are not limited to:

The ability to account for funds in compliance with applicable reporting and recordkeeping requirements;

Timely use of funds received from HUD;

Timely submission and quality of reports submitted to HUD;

Meeting program requirements;

Meeting performance targets as established in the grant agreement;

The applicant's organizational capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities;

Timely completion of activities and receipt and expenditure of promised matching or leveraged funds;

The number of persons served or targeted for assistance;

Promoting self-sufficiency and economic independence

Producing positive outcomes and results.

HUD may reduce scores based on the past performance review, as specified under V.A. Review Criteria. Whenever possible, HUD will obtain past performance information. If this review results in an adverse finding related to integrity of performance, HUD reserves the right to take

any of the remedies provided in Section III E., Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility, "[Pre-selection Review of Performance](#)".

2. Assessing Applicant Risk.

In evaluating risks posed by applicants, HUD may use a risk-based approach and may consider any items such as the following:

- Financial stability;
- Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
- History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, failing to make significant progress in a timely manner, failing to meet planned activities in a timely manner, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;
- Reports and findings from audits performed under Subpart F—Audit Requirements of this part or the reports and findings of any other available audits; and
- The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

VI. Award Administration Information.

A. Award Notices.

Following the evaluation process, HUD will notify successful applicants of their selection for funding. HUD will also notify other applicants, whose applications were received by the deadline, but have not been chosen for award. Notifications will be sent by email to the person listed as the AOR in item 21 of the SF-424.

Final Grant. After HUD has made selections, HUD will finalize specific terms of the award and budget in consultation with the selected applicant. If HUD and the selected applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, or the selected applicant fails to provide requested information, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant.

HUD may impose specific conditions on an award as provided under [2 CFR 200.208](#):

- Based on HUD's review of the applicant's risk under [2 CFR 200.206](#);
- When the applicant or recipient has a history of failure to comply with the general or specific terms and conditions of a Federal award;
- When the applicant or recipient fails to meet expected performance goals contained in a federal award; or
- When the applicant or recipient is not otherwise responsible.

Adjustments to Funding. To ensure the fair distribution of funds and enable the purposes or requirements of a specific program to be met, HUD reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in an application.

- a. HUD will fund no portion of an application that:
- (1) Is not eligible for funding under applicable statutory or regulatory requirements;
 - (2) Does not meet the requirements of this notice; or
 - (3) Duplicates other funded programs or activities from prior year awards or other selected applicants.
- b. If funds are available after funding the highest-ranking application, HUD may fund all or part of another eligible fundable application. If an applicant turns down an award offer, or if HUD and an applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, HUD may withdraw the award offer and make an offer of funding to another eligible application.
- c. If funds remain after all selections have been made, remaining funds may be made available within the current FY for other competitions within the program area, or be held for future competitions, or be used as otherwise provided by authorizing statute or appropriation.
- d. If, after announcement of awards made under the current NOFO, additional funds become available either through the current appropriations, a supplemental appropriation, other appropriations or recapture of funds, HUD may use the additional funds to provide additional funding to an applicant awarded less than the requested amount of funds to make the full award, and/or to fund additional applicants that were eligible to receive an award but for which there were no funds available.

Funding Errors. If HUD commits an error that when corrected would cause selection of an applicant during the funding round of a Program NOFO, HUD may select that applicant for funding, subject to the availability of funds. If funding is not available to award in the current fiscal year, HUD may make an award to this applicant during the next fiscal year, if funding is available.

B. Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Recipients Financial Assistance Awards

For this NOFO, the following [Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards](#) apply.

1. Unless otherwise specified, these non-discrimination and equal opportunity authorities and other requirements apply to all NOFOs. Please read the following requirements carefully as the requirements are different among HUD's programs.

- Accessible Technology. See

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCIO/documents/s508103017.pdf>

2. Equal Access Requirements. [See 24 CFR 5.105\(a\)\(2\)](#)

3. Ensuring the Participation of Small Disadvantaged Business, and Women-Owned Business.

4. Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities.

5. Participation in HUD-Sponsored Program Evaluation.

6. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.

7. Drug-Free Workplace.

8. Safeguarding Resident/Client Files.

9. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) (Transparency Act), as amended.

10. Eminent Domain.

11. Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. See https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/disability_overview
12. Violence Against Women Act. See [24 CFR part 5](#), subpart L and applicable program regulations.
13. Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards/Code of Conduct.
14. Buy American Build American
15. Environmental Requirements, which include compliance with environmental justice requirements under Executive Order [12898](#) and [14008](#).

Environmental Review

Compliance with [24 CFR part 50](#) or [58](#) procedures is explained below:

In accordance with 24 CFR 50.19 activities funded under this NOFO are exempt or categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321) and not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities.

Prohibition on Surveillance

[2 CFR 200.216](#) Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

Remedies for Noncompliance

[2 CFR 200.340](#) *Termination* A Federal award may be terminated in whole or in part if the grantee fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the award or if HUD determines the award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities.

Lead Based Paint Requirements.

Not Applicable

N/A

C. Reporting.

HUD requires recipients to submit performance and financial reports under OMB guidance and program instructions.

1. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters. Applicants should be aware that if the total Federal share of your federal award includes more than \$ 500,000 over the period of performance, the award will be subject to post award reporting requirements reflected in Appendix XII to Part 200 Award Terms and Conditions for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

2. Race, Ethnicity and Other Data Reporting. HUD requires recipients that provide HUD-funded program benefits to individuals or families to report data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households who

are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of HUD programs in order to carry out the Department's responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 562 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987.

3. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) as amended (FFATA). FFATA requires information on federal awards be made available to the public via a single, searchable website, which is www.USASpending.gov. Accordingly, each award HUD makes under this NOFO will be subject to the requirements provided by the Award Term in Appendix A to [2 CFR Part 170](#), "REPORTINGSUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION," unless the Federal funding for the award (including funding that may be added through amendments) is not expected to equal or exceed \$30,000. Requirements under this Award Term include filing subaward information in the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS.gov) by the end of the month following the month in which the recipient awards any sub-grant equal to or greater than \$30,000.

4. Program-Specific Reporting Requirements

This program requires recipients to submit, not less than annually, a report documenting achievement of outcomes under the purpose of the program and the work plan in the award agreement.

Quarterly Progress Reports: Quarterly Progress Reports will document activities completed in the most recent reporting period, planned activities for the upcoming reporting period, and budget expenditures by line item (including hours worked for specific staff). Progress reports must be submitted quarterly and should be aligned with the submission of drawdown requests.

Draft Final Report: Draft Final Report must summarize the work conducted over the course of the project, present the study objectives, data sources, analysis methods, and results. The Draft Final Report is the key deliverable of the study and must serve as a standalone document that meets the overall objective of this project. The Draft Final Report should be edited and prepared for publication in accordance with HUD's Guidelines for Preparing a Report for Publication https://www.huduser.gov/portal/About/GTR_Guide1.pdf

Final Report: Final Report must adequately address any HUD comments received for the Draft Final Report. This report is expected to be submitted just before the conclusion of the grant.

D. Debriefing.

For a period of at least 120 days, beginning 30 days after the public announcement of awards under this NOFO, HUD will provide a debriefing related to their application to requesting applicants. A request for debriefing must be made in writing or by email by the authorized organization representative whose signature appears on the SF-424 or by his or her successor in office and be submitted to the POC in Section VII Agency Contact(s), below. Information provided during a debriefing may include the final score the applicant received for each rating factor, final evaluator comments for each rating factor, and the final assessment indicating the basis upon which funding was approved or denied.

VII. Agency Contact(s).

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFO.

Questions regarding specific program requirements for this NOFO should be directed to the POC listed below.

Name:

Kinnard Wright

Phone:

202-402-7495

Email:

Kinnard.D.Wright@hud.gov

Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications.

VIII. Other Information.

1. National Environmental Policy Act.

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the environment has been made for this NOFO in accordance with HUD regulations at [24 CFR part 50](#), which implement section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

The FONSI is available for inspection at [HUD's Funding Opportunities](#) web page.

2. Web Resources.

- [Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing](#)
- [Code of Conduct list](#)
- [Assistance Listing \(formerly CFDA\)](#)
- [Unique Entity Identifier](#)
- [Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations](#)
- [Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System](#)
- [FFATA Subaward Reporting System](#)
- [Grants.gov](#)
- [HBCUs](#)
- [Healthy Homes Strategic Plan](#)
- [Healthy Housing Reference Manual](#)
- [HUD's Strategic Plan](#)
- [HUD Grants](#)
- [Limited English Proficiency](#)
- [NOFO Webcasts](#)
- [Procurement of Recovered Materials](#)
- [Promise Zones](#)
- [Section 3 Business Registry](#)
- [State Point of Contact List](#)

- [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#)
- [Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 \(URA\)](#)
- [USA Spending](#)

3. Program Relevant Web Resources

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

Synopsis

FR-6600-N-29F

HUDRD - HBCU Research Center of Excellence

General Information

Summary

Submit Initial Draft

05/02/2022

Document Type

Initial

Record Status

Active

Fiscal Year

2022

FOA FY Processing Year

2022

Program Funding Type

Discretionary

Funding Activity Category

ED - Education

Recovery Act

No

Funding Instrument Type

CA (Cooperative Agreement)

Directed Announcement

No

Administrative Policies

Non-Competing

No

Non-Competing Description

Single Source Justification (4,000 character limit)

N/A

Limited Competition

Yes

Additional Disqualification Factors

Yes

FOA History

New Opportunity

Yes

Previously Published Fiscal Year

2021

Previously Published Funding Opportunity Number

FR-6400-N-61

Information Collection

Expected Number of Applications

12

Award Information

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

No

Percentage of Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Expected Number of Awards

3

Estimated Total Funding

\$5,500,000

Estimated Award Ceiling

\$4,000,000

Per Project Period

Estimated Award Floor

\$1,500,000

Per Project Period

Length of Project Periods

36-month project period and budget period

Length of Project Periods Explanation of Other

N/A

Project Period | Expected Duration in Months

36

Project Type

Research

Eligibility Information

Eligibility Category

06 (Public and State controlled institutions of higher education)

20 (Private institutions of higher education)

Additional Information on Eligibility (Grants.gov 4,000/GMM 2,500 character limit)

Eligible organizations include all Historically Black Colleges and Universities as defined in Section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Only Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) are eligible to compete for, or receive awards made under this announcement.

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary (of Education) to be a reliable authority as to

the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.

Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible to compete for, or receive, awards made under this announcement.

Key Dates

Submit Initial FOA Draft

05/02/2022

Estimated Post Date

August 26, 2022

Estimated Application Due Date

12/20/2022 11:59 PM

Application Due Date Explanation (250 character limit):

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

Estimated Award Date

01/30/2023

Estimated Project Start Date

02/13/2023

Estimated Project End Date

02/13/2026

Additional Information

Authority

This program is authorized by Sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. §1701z-1 and §1701z-2) and funding is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103, approved March 15, 2022).

Description (Grants.gov/Forecast) (18,000 character limit)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this grant is to conduct research projects on multiple topics of strategic interest to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD's 2022-26 Learning Agenda (<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/HUD-Learning-Agenda.pdf>) identifies HUD's priority learning and research questions, consistent with the Departmental objectives and goals described in the 2022-26 Strategic Plan

(<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CFO/documents/FY2022-2026HUDStrategicPlan.pdf>).

Research on topics highlighted in the Learning Agenda will enable the establishment of up to three additional Historically Black College and Universities Center(s) of Excellence (COE) or additional funding to a COE that received partial funding under the previous COE NOFO. The research projects are intended to initiate an ongoing series of reports focused on housing, community, and economic development in underserved communities that can serve as national, local, or regional benchmarks and assist in support of COE(s) that expand the housing and community development research efforts at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). For benchmark comparisons, applicants are encouraged to consider the work of other university based housing research centers such as Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies, New York University's Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, the Shimberg

Center for Housing Studies at the University of Florida, and the Turner Center for Housing Innovation at the University of California Berkeley, that sometimes focus on national issues, but largely focus on local or regional housing and community development issues. The research projects, proposed by the awardee, will focus on topics of interest to the Department about underserved communities from the unique perspective of institutions that are often located in, and serve the residents of underserved communities.

The COE should take a multidisciplinary approach to housing and community development research, and through innovative methods study the social and economic factors that create healthy communities. Ultimately, the purpose of the COE should be to influence policy at the local, state, and national levels, providing evidence-based innovative approaches to community development based on research it undertakes.

In addition to identifying research projects, the awardee will be required to develop and submit a detailed plan for the development and long-term sustainment (beyond 5 years) of a Center of Excellence to carry on the work of the initial reports and to serve as a focus of thought leadership and alternative analysis of the issues related to underserved communities. The COE will serve as a platform for the formulation, analysis and dissemination of solutions utilizing alternatives to current academic theory and policy prescriptions to address problems confronting underserved communities. The COE will perform academic research, hold expert convenings, and conduct related activities designed to advance understanding of economic and social factors that affect communities, including housing, economic and workforce development, health and health care, education, civic engagement, public safety, and other dimensions of community health. Through academic programs, research projects and thought leadership, the COE will help leaders across all levels of government as well as the business and civic sectors address critical issues that impact the social and economic well-being of the families and individuals who reside in underserved urban and rural communities.

The challenges faced by underserved urban and rural communities are long-standing and complex and have defied conventional approaches for decades. HUD intends to fund research projects to initiate a series of benchmark reports that will apply new and context-specific approaches and methods to studying those challenges to develop innovative, evidence-based policy recommendations. HUD seeks applicants with demonstrated ability to conduct complex research and devise actionable policy recommendations. At the same time, HUD encourages applicants to propose building on their demonstrated experience to do something new and innovative. HUD encourages the submission of proposals that draw on novel research approaches, including big data analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence; and novel partnerships such as academic consortia, and collaboration with private entities or other federal agencies. Competitive applications will include action and sustainability plans, creative partnerships and collaboration models, multidisciplinary and holistic methodologies, and new or enhanced theory of change models designed to achieve transformative outcomes.

The funds made available under this NOFO will make awards for recipients to undertake multiple research projects. This will assist in the COE(s) ability to use this work to develop other streams of revenue and grant funding, including from private enterprise and private philanthropic organizations, to support on-going and sustainable operations and activities.

HUD is particularly interested in research that may include, as noted in the Presidential Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, a better understanding of the disparities in our laws and public policies, and in our public and private institutions, that may be denying equal housing and community building opportunity to individuals and communities and policy prescriptions that might address these disparities, the results of which would widely be available for application in the field. The subjects addressed by the applicant should be framed by issues of barriers to improving the quality of life and creating paths to increased economic success in underserved communities while improving access to sustainability in rental and owner housing and other areas of investigation, particularly for minority residents. The research should take the view of both short- and long-term strategies. Research must be framed toward a long-term goal (e.g., improving minority homeownership). It may also include, but not limited to topics like:

- The production and availability of quality affordable housing;
- Impact studies, policy analysis and alternatives for housing and community and economic development initiatives focused on people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality; and
- Topics listed in the Learning Agenda mentioned earlier:
<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/HUD-Learning-Agenda.pdf>.

Grantor Contact Name

Kinnard Wright

Grantor Email Address

Kinnard.D.Wright@hud.gov

Grantor Contact Phone

202-402-7495

Grantor Email Description

N/A

Link to Additional Information

<https://N/A>