

Special YHDP Activities. The CoC Program NOFO permits YHDP project applicants to integrate YHDP Special Activities into the project design through the selection of these activities in YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement project applications. YHDP renewal applicants may continue to select previously approved Special YHDP Activities in their project application; however, YHDP Renewal applicants may also request to add new Special YHDP Activities through their renewal application [see sections I.B.3.n and III.B.4.b.(6) of this NOFO]. If a recipient of YHDP funding determines that changing the project model of their grant would better serve youth experiencing homelessness in the area, the recipient must submit an application to replace the YHDP project through this competition. An example of this would be if a community decides that a JOINT TH-RRH project would better serve youth compared to an RRH project. More details on submitting a YHDP Replacement project are in section III.B.4.b.(5).

YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement projects may submit applications that include the following special YHDP activities in addition to activities eligible under the CoC program. The following activities, which are ineligible under the CoC Program, may also be included in a YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement project and award, subject to the conditions specified in this section: (a) Recipients may carry out the activities below with written notice to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs, subject to the requirements governing grant agreement amendments at 24 CFR 578.105. HUD will consider the inclusion of these activities in the project application as notification to the Deputy Assistance Secretary for Special Needs.

- i. Housing projects may have leases for a minimum term of 1 month plus 1 day under rental assistance budget line items.
- ii. Projects may use leasing, sponsor-based rental assistance, and project-based rental assistance in RRH projects.
- iii. In addition to the eligible costs listed in 24 CFR 578.59(a), recipients may use project administration funds to support costs of involving youth with lived experience in project implementation, execution, and improvement.
- iv. Recipient may use project administrative funds to attend conferences and trainings that are not HUD-sponsored or HUD-approved, provided that the subject matter is relevant to youth homelessness.
- v. Projects may employ youth who are receiving services, or housing assistance, from the recipient organization. Recipients that use this special YHDP activity must maintain documentation that discloses the nature of work that the youth performs, and that the youth is not in a position that creates a conflict of interest.
- vi. Projects may use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.403(c) rather than Housing Quality Standards in 24 CFR 578.75 for short- or medium-term (up to 24 months) housing assistance. Recipients implementing this special YHDP activity must keep documentation of which standards they apply to the units and proof that the units complied with standards before assistance is provided for every unit funded.
- vii. Recipients may provide moving expenses to a program participant more than once.
- viii. Recipients may provide payments of up to \$500 per month for families that provide housing under a host home and kinship care model to offset the increased costs associated with having youth housed in the unit.
- ix. YHDP recipients may continue providing supportive services to program participants for up to 12 months after the program participant exits homelessness, transitional housing or after the end of housing assistance.

- x. Recipients may use grant funds for the following if they are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing. Recipients and subrecipients must maintain records establishing how it was determined that paying the costs was necessary for the program participant to obtain and retain housing and must also conduct an annual assessment of the needs of the program participants and adjust costs accordingly:
- xi. Security deposits for units in an amount not to exceed 2 months of rent. ii. The costs to pay for any damage to housing due to the action of program participants, which may be paid while the youth continues to reside in the unit. The total costs paid for damage per program participant may not exceed the cost of 2-months' rent.
- xii. The costs of providing household cleaning supplies to clients.
- xiii. Housing start-up expenses for program participants, including furniture, pots and pans, linens, toiletries, and other household goods, not to exceed \$300 in value per program participant.
- xiv. The one-time cost of purchasing a cellular phone and service for program participant use, provided access to a cellular phone is necessary to obtain or maintain housing and the costs of the phone and services are reasonable per 2 CFR 200.404. vi. The cost of internet in program participants' units if the costs of the service is reasonable per 2 CFR 200.404.
- xv. Payment of rental arrears consisting of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.
- xvi. Payment of utility arrears of up to 6 months per utility.
- xvii. Up to 3 months of utilities for a program participant, based on the utility costs schedule for the unit size and location.
- xviii. In addition to transportation costs eligible in 24 CFR 578.53(e)(15), recipients may pay gas and mileage costs for a program participant's personal vehicle for trips to and from medical care, employment, childcare, or other services eligible under this section.
- xix. Legal fees, including court fees, bail bonds, and required courses and equipment.
- xx. Program participant's past driving fines and fees that are blocking a young person from being able to obtain or renew a driver's license and impacting their ability to obtain or maintain housing. Additionally, recipients may pay for program participants' costs for insurance and registration for personal vehicles, if the personal vehicle is necessary to reach medical care, employment, childcare, or other services eligible under this section.
- xxi. Recipients may provide assistance for "Shared Housing," as defined in section I.B.2.b(27) of this NOFO, subject to the following conditions:
- xxii. YHDP rental assistance cannot be provided to a youth to reside in a unit occupied by the youth's parent(s), grandparent(s), or legal guardian.
- xxiii. YHDP rental assistance cannot be provided to a youth in a shared housing unit if the landlord or owner is the youth's parent, grandparent, or legal guardian.
- xxiv. YHDP rental assistance may only be provided to a youth if the youth can enter into a valid, binding, and enforceable lease under applicable state or local law. This includes a legally appointed guardian executing a lease on behalf of a youth or an emancipated youth entering into a lease.
- xxv. Subject to the use of other special YHDP activities under this section III.B.4.a.(7), the provision of YHDP rental assistance for shared housing must comply with all CoC requirements for rental assistance, except that FMR must be adjusted to the

youth's pro-rata share of the FMR for the shared housing unit size. For example, in the case of a single youth who will occupy one bedroom in a 4-bedroom house, the FMR used would be the youth's pro-rata share of the 4bedroom FMR (i.e., $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 4-bedroom FMR).