Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

Summary of Multifamily First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 State of Texas Consolidated Plan One Year Action Plan

November 2023

This amendment addresses geographic distribution priorities as well as general allocation priorities for the Department's multifamily Housing Trust Fund and HOME funds. Additional priorities may be set in a Notice of Funding Availability.

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AP-30 Methods of Distribution – 91.320(d)&(k)

Introduction:

Given that Texas is the second largest state in the nation by total area, the method of distribution of its funds has to take into account a very large area. To serve this large area it is necessary for the State to use subrecipients to administer the programs funded under CPD. The selection processes for these entities are generally described below.

Distribution Methods

Table 14 - Distribution Methods by State Program

10	**State Program Name:**	HOME Multifamily Development
	Funding Sources:	HOME
	Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	The Multifamily Direct Loan Program awards HOME loans to for-profit and nonprofit multifamily developers to construct and rehabilitate affordable rental housing. These loans typically carry a 2% interest rate (although other interest rates may be offered if reflected in the NOFA) and have terms ranging from 15 years to 40 years. The vast majority of the loans are made to developments that also have awards of 4% or 9% HTCs.
	Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	TDHCA's Texas Administrative Code Chapters 10, 11, and 13 set forth the minimum requirements that document a project owner's readiness to proceed with the development as evidenced by site control, notification of local officials, the availability of permanent financing, appropriate zoning for the site, and a market and environmental study. Additionally, the development must also meet financial feasibility and subsidy layering requirements. After a period of Regional Allocation, HOME funds are typically awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, as long as the criteria above are met, although the NOFA may specify other priorities used to rank applications, such as giving priority to requests for larger amounts of funding. After a certain date, for HOME Multifamily Development applications layered with 9% HTCs, the highest scoring applications in the 9% cycle that also request HOME funds are prioritized according to 9% criteria.

	Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.	A maximum of 85% of HOME Multifamily Funds, are available for general activities and at least 15% for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). The HOME Multifamily Direct Loan Program may make funds available annually or through a special purpose NOFA under the General, Supportive Housing/Soft Repayment, or CHDO Set-Asides, or specifically to previously-awarded developments that have experienced cost increases since initial award.
	Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	TDHCA's Qualified Allocation Plan set forth a minimum set of requirements that document a project owner's readiness to proceed with the development as evidenced by site control, notification of local officials, the availability of permanent financing, experience of the developer, appropriate zoning for the site, and a market and environmental study. The development must also meet financial feasibility and subsidy layering requirements. Awards of HOME Multifamily Direct Loan Program funds range from approximately $2,000,000 to $4,000,000 per application typically in the form of a loan, but these amounts may change and the caps may be lower or higher than $4 million if so reflected in a published NOFA.
	What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	Assistance to LMI households.

State Program Name:	National Housing Trust Fund
Funding Sources:	Housing Trust Fund
Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	The NHTF Program awards loans to for-profit and nonprofit multifamily developers to construct/rehabilitate multifamily affordable housing. Because the NHTF is required to benefit ELI households at or below the greater of 30% of AMI or the poverty rate, the units will likely not be able to service a debt payment. The constraints on NHTF dictate that the funds typically be available as construction only loans, 2% interest rate permanent loans with fixed monthly payments, deferred payment, deferred forgivable permanent loans, partially amortizing loans (with the amount not in a fixed payment due at sale, refinance, or at the end of the loan term), or 75% cash flow loans (FHA only) if required, to leverage with tax credits or other financing mechanisms. Loan types and Development financial structures may be further limited or incentivized by NOFA.
Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	TDHCA's Texas Administrative Code Chapters 11 and 13 set forth a minimum set of requirements that document a project owner's readiness to proceed with the development. The Development must also meet financial feasibility requirements. After applied period of regional distribution, the funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, as long as the criteria above are met, although the NOFA may specify other priorities used to rank applications, such as giving priority to requests for larger amounts of funding. In the event that multiple qualifying applications are submitted on the same date and insufficient funding exists to award all of them, applications will be prioritized according to the scoring and tie-breaking criteria specified in 10 TAC §13.6. 10 TAC §13.6 establishes criteria that may be used for scoring and prioritizing; however, staff might identify within a given NOFA that additional scoring criteria is necessary to meet current needs. Remaining NHTF may then be made available statewide in the annual NOFA in other set-asides, or transferred to a special purpose NOFA.
Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.	NHTF will not be allocated among funding categories. The NHTF funds are provided for multiple uses, to meet the requirement to serve ELI households.

Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	TDHCA's Texas Administrative Code Chapters 10, 11, and 13 set forth a minimum set of requirements that document a project owner's readiness to proceed with the development as evidenced by site control, notification of local officials, the availability of permanent financing, experience of the developer, appropriate zoning for the site, and a market and environmental study. Additionally, the development must have certain unit amenities and common development amenities. Developments must also meet financial feasibility requirements. Award funds typically range up to $4,000,000 per application in the form of a loan for this program, but which may be capped at a lower or higher amount in the NOFA.
What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	Assistance to ELI households.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.320(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the state (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

HOME/NHTF Addresses Geographic Areas for Assistance

TDHCA does not provide priorities for allocation of investment geographically to areas of minority concentration; however, the geographic distribution of HOME/NHTF funds to minority populations is analyzed annually. TDHCA is statutorily required by the Texas Government Code to provide a comprehensive statement of its activities through the State of Texas Low Income Housing Plan and Annual Report. Part of this document describes the ethnic and racial composition of families and individuals receiving assistance from each housing program.

HOME/NHTF funds used for multifamily development are typically paired with tax-exempt bond and/or HTC. TDHCA rules that govern the HTC Program include incentives for developments utilizing the competitive 9% HTC in high opportunity areas, which are defined as high-income and low-poverty areas, with multiple community amenities in close proximity to the development. It also provides competitive incentive to develop in colonias or economically distressed areas. Developments using tax-exempt bond financing and 4% HTCs are more frequently located in qualified census tracts due to federal guidelines that cause these to be more financially viable.

ESG Addresses Geographic Areas for Assistance

Assistance provided by ESG funds will be directed statewide, according to the 11 HUD-designated CoC regions. TDHCA does not provide priorities for allocating investment geographically to areas of minority concentration, as described in 24 CFR §91.320(f).

HOPWA Addresses Geographic Areas for Assistance

Texas HOPWA funding allocations are geographically distributed across the state to six Ryan White Part B HIV Planning Areas encompassing 26 HIV Service Delivery Areas (HSDAs). The DSHS HOPWA Program serves all counties in Texas, prioritizing the counties that are located outside of the six HOPWA-funded Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) (Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio). As a result, the DSHS HOPWA Program targets non-urban, less-populated areas of the state. HOPWA allocations generally mirror the Texas Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funding allocation formula, which is based on the number of PLWH, number of PLWH accessing Ryan White services, the percent of PLWH eligible for Medicaid, HIV incidence, and other considerations. The allocations are then adjusted to account for local factors, including unmet need, prior performance and expenditures, and any other relevant metrics.

CDBG Addresses Geographic Areas for Assistance

TDA does not provide priorities for allocation of funds geographically to areas of minority concentration as described in Section 91.320(f). CDBG funds are allocated across the state in three ways.

1. The CD Fund assigns a percentage of the annual allocation to each of the 24 Regional COGs, ensuring that each region of the state receives a portion of the funds.

2. The Colonia Fund directs funding to communities within 150 miles of the Texas-Mexico border. All remaining funds are distributed through state-wide competitions without geographic priorities.

3. The Colonia Self-Help Center (CSHC) Program is offered along the Texas-Mexico border in Cameron/Willacy, El Paso, Hidalgo, Maverick, Nueces, Starr, Val Verde, and Webb counties. The CSHC Program serves approximately 40 colonias in seven border counties, which are comprised of primarily Hispanic households and have concentrations of very low-income households.

NHTF Geographic Priorities description is added to Discussion section text below.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
State of Texas	100

Table 2~~6~~ - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

HOME Addresses Geographic Investments

HOME funds are allocated geographically using a regional allocation formula (RAF), as described in Strategic Plan Section 10, of the 2020-2024 State of Texas Consolidated Plan. This process directs funds to areas of the State that demonstrate high need. Unless waived by the Governor in the event of a disaster, at least 95% of TDHCA-administered HOME funds are used in areas that are not Participating Jurisdictions (PJs) per statute. This results in more HOME funds in smaller communities than in larger Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) that receive HOME funds directly from HUD. The current RAF is online at http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/housing-center/pubs-plans.htm.

ESG Addresses Geographic Investments

ESG allocates ESG funds to each CoC region based on an allocation formula. This formula includes factors such as homeless population, people living in poverty, cost burden of renters, point in time counts and ESG funds available from federal and state sources.

HOPWA Addresses Geographic Investments

Texas HOPWA funding allocations are geographically distributed across the state to six Ryan White Part B HIV Planning Areas encompassing 26 HIV Service Delivery Areas (HSDAs). The DSHS HOPWA Program serves all counties in Texas, prioritizing the counties that are located outside of the six HOPWA-funded Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) (Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio). As a result, the DSHS HOPWA Program targets non-urban, less-populated areas of the state. HOPWA allocations generally mirror the Texas Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funding allocation formula, which is based on the number of PLWH, number of PLWH accessing Ryan White services, the percent of PLWH eligible for Medicaid, HIV incidence, and other considerations. The allocations are then adjusted to account for local factors, including unmet need, prior performance and expenditures, and any other relevant metrics.

CDBG Addresses Geographic Investments

Texas CDBG Funds for projects under the CD Fund are allocated by formula to 24 regions based on the methodology that HUD uses to allocate CDBG funds to the non-entitlement state programs (21.71% of annual allocation), along with a state formula based on poverty and unemployment (40% of annual allocation). 12.5% of the annual allocation is allocated to projects under the Colonia Fund categories, which must be expended within 150 miles of the Texas-Mexico border.

State statute mandates designation of six Colonia Self-Help Centers (Centers) along the Texas-Mexico border in Cameron/Willacy, El Paso, Hidalgo, Nueces, Starr, and Webb counties to address the long history of poverty and lack of institutional resources. In 2001, TDHCA added two additional Centers in Maverick and Val Verde counties. These eight counties collectively have approximately 26,118 colonia residents who may qualify to access Center services.

NHTF Geographic Investments description is added to Discussion section text below.

Discussion

Many of the Target Areas available in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS), HUD’s electronic system in which this Plan has been entered, were too detailed for use at the macro-level; therefore, the State entered the “State of Texas” as a Target Area in Strategic Plan Section 10. Within Texas, each program relies on a formula to distribute funds geographically.

NHTF Geographic Priorities

The Texas NHTF will distribute NHTF funds through a competitive NOFA process. The funds will initially be available geographically, based on the proportion of Extremely Low Income Renter households to the total population of Renter Households in the thirteen State Service Regions. A minimum will be calculated for each region as a ratio of the available allocation divided by thirteen, and available competitively within each region prior to collapse into a statewide competition. Multiple contiguous State Service Regions may be grouped together, and their funds combined into a single pool for that group of regions, but in no case will fewer than four regions be identified to ensure that funds are awarded throughout the State. If the Department chooses to create such groups, further information about them will be provided in the NOFA for the funds.

NHTF Addresses Geographic Investments

NHTF funds are allocated geographically using a Regional Allocation Formula, as described in Strategic Plan Section 10. Acknowledging that all regions of the State have a need to create housing for ELI households, the formula provides opportunity for access to NHTF. This process directs funds to areas of the State that demonstrate high need.

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.320(k)(1,2,3)

Introduction:

Program specific requirements as referenced in 24 CFR §91.320 (k)(1,2,3) are described below for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.

For the CDBG Program, it is expected that the total amount of program income for collected in PY 2022 and made available for programming in PY 2023 will be $1,000,000, including program income collected by the state and program income retained by local subgrantees. The amount of CDBG urgent need activities is not expected to exceed $3,000,000. The 85% of CDBG funds to benefit persons of low to moderate income includes PY 2021-2023.

Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(5)

1. **How will the grantee distribute its HTF funds? Select all that apply:**
   ☑ Applications submitted by eligible recipients
   ☐ Subgrantees that are HUD-CPD entitlement grantees

2. **If distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees, describe the method for distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees and how those funds will be made available to state agencies and/or units of general local government. If not distributing funds through grants to subgrantees, enter "N/A".**

   N/A

3. **If distributing HTF funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients,**

a. Describe the eligibility requirements for recipients of HTF funds (as defined in 24 CFR § 93.2). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Selection criteria typically only applies when funds are oversubscribed; in cases where the application is layered concurrently with 9% Housing Tax Credits and submitted during the competitive HTC cycle, for instance, scoring in 10 TAC §11.9 would be applicable. To the extent that two or more applications for NHTF have the same received by date and the funds are oversubscribed, the scoring and tie-breaker criteria listed in the Multifamily Direct Loan Rule (10 TAC Chapter 13), found in the attachments, will apply, unless additional scoring or prioritization criteria has been specified in the NOFA. If applications for NHTF are not combined with 9% HTC or do not need to be prioritized in a regional allocation formula, they will be prioritized based on the Application Acceptance Date and reviewed according to the priorities established in the NOFA and 10 TAC §13.6 to ensure they meet the Department's threshold criteria, which takes into account all of the selection criteria in 24 CFR §91.320(k)(5)(i).

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs' Multifamily Division awards or allocates more than $1 billion annually of debt and equity in an efficient and compliant manner. Our processes for Application selection are comprehensive, and assure that the resulting Developments satisfy strong standards for financial feasibility and long-term stability. Our Compliance Monitoring Division assures that all properties meet these standards for the duration of their affordability period, and is frequently cited as one of the best Compliance divisions nationally.

Program requirements are outlined in the Texas Administrative Code the Qualified Allocation Plan and Multifamily Direct Loan Rule are updated annually through an open and transparent public input process. Additionally, the QAP is approved annually by the Governor. All of the selection criteria described in 24 CFR §91.320(k)(5)(i) are addressed by the rules, although not necessarily contained in one rule dedicated solely to NHTF. We hold all Applications for multifamily funds to the same standards through the application of consistent requirements across all fund sources.

All Applications for NHTF funds must meet threshold criteria in 10 TAC Chapter 11, Subchapters A through D, and the Multifamily Direct Loan Rule, which address Definitions, Site and Development requirements, Applicant and Application requirements, and loan structure and underwriting requirements.

b. Describe the grantee's application requirements for eligible recipients to apply for HTF funds. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Texas' application requirements can be found in 10 TAC Chapter 11, Subchapter C: Application Submission Requirements, Ineligibility Criteria, Board Decisions and Waiver of Rules; as well as 10 TAC Chapter 13 (Multifamily Direct Loan Rule). See link in attachments to rules.

c. Describe the selection criteria that the grantee will use to select applications submitted by eligible recipients. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Selection criteria typically only applies when funds are oversubscribed; in cases where the application is layered concurrently with 9% Housing Tax Credits and submitted during the competitive HTC cycle, for instance, scoring in 10 TAC §11.9 would be applicable. To the extent that two or more applications for NHTF have the same received by date and the funds are oversubscribed, the scoring and tie-breaker criteria listed in the linked Multifamily Direct Loan Rule (10 TAC Chapter 13) in the attachments, will apply, unless additional priorities or scoring criteria are established in the applicable NOFA.

If applications for NHTF are not combined with 9% HTC or do not need to be prioritized in a regional allocation formula, they will be prioritized based on the Application Acceptance Date and reviewed to ensure they meet the Department's threshold criteria, which takes into account all of the selection criteria in 24 CFR §91.320(k)(5)(i).

To address statewide increases in construction costs, TDHCA issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA 2023-1) in December 2022 for NHTF Calendar Year 2023 funding in the amount of $42,637,605. The 2023-1 NOFA includes priorities for previously awarded applications that had applied for funding in calendar year 2022 to addressed cost increases, but which were not awarded funding from that application. The following waivers from standard requirements are available for this set-aside:

i. 10 TAC §11.101(a)(2) related to Undesirable Risk Features, to the extent that the undesirable feature was disclosed at original Application;

ii. 10 TAC §11.01(a)(3)(B)(iv) related to schools, including disclosure requirements, to the extent that the risk factor was disclosed at original Application; Page 13 of 17

iii. 10 TAC §13.1(c)(1) related to Waivers for Layered Developments, instead Applicant requested Waivers will be treated under 10 TAC §13.1(c)(2);

iv. 10 TAC §13.4(s)(1)(A)(ii)(III) related to 30% units restricted by Housing Tax Credits;

v. 10 TAC §13.5(c) related to Market Analysis;10 TAC §13.5(h)(2) and (3)(A)-(C) related to eligibility determinations;

vi. 10 TAC §13.5(i) related to Effective Rules, only to the extent that the requirements of the applicable 2020, 2021, or 2022 QAP requirements for prior HTC or Multifamily Direct Loan awards will instead be utilized for 10 TAC §11.101(4) Mandatory Development Amenities, 10 TAC §11.101(5) Common Amenities, 10 TAC §11.101(6) Unit Requirements, and 10 TAC §11.101(7) Resident Supportive Services.

Please see response to 3a for additional detail on selection criteria.

d. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on geographic diversity (as defined by the grantee in the consolidated plan). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

As described in SP-10 Geographic Priorities the Texas NHTF will distribute NHTF funds through a competitive NOFA process. As reflected in 10 TAC §13.4(b) the funds will initially be available geographically, based on the proportion of Extremely Low Income Renter households to the total population of Renter Households in the thirteen State Service Regions. A minimum will be calculated for each region as a ratio of the available allocation divided by thirteen, and available competitively within each region for at least the first 30 days after a NOFA is published prior to being collapsed into a statewide competition. Multiple contiguous State Service Regions may be grouped together, and their funds combined into a single pool for that group of regions, but in no case will fewer than four regions be identified to ensure that funds are awarded throughout the State. If the Department chooses to create such groups, further information about them will be provided in the NOFA for the funds.

Thereafter, consideration of geographic diversity will not be a factor in evaluating applications. Please see attached Multifamily Direct Loan Rule for text of 10 TAC §13.4(b). Also attached are Regional Allocation amounts based on the 2022 NHTF Allocation as well as a map of the Uniform State Service Regions. If sufficient funding remains after all eligible applicants are provided at least 30 days to receive a new Application Acceptance Date, TDHCA may allow applicants, which did not previously have an Application Acceptance Date under the 2022-1 NOFA to apply for funding.

e. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the applicant's ability to obligate HTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Applicants must provide evidence of their experience in developing and managing multifamily developments as required under 10 TAC §13.5(g)(1)

Application criteria including readiness to proceed as evidenced by site control, appropriate zoning, architectural plans, and evidence of financing will be considered.

Furthermore, 10 TAC §13.11(c)(1) through (3) states:

"(1) Environmental Clearance. In order to obtain environmental clearance required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other related Federal and state environmental laws (if applicable), Direct Loan Applicants, including those previously awarded HTC, must submit a fully completed environmental review, including any applicable reports to the Department within 90 days of the Application Acceptance Date.

(2) Contract Execution. After a Development receives environmental clearance (if applicable), the Department will draft a Contract to be emailed to the Direct Loan awardee. Direct Loan awardees must execute and return a Contract to the Department within 30 calendar days after receipt of the Contract.

(3) Loan Closing and Construction Commencement. Loan closing must occur and construction must begin on or before the dates described in the Contract. If construction has not commenced within 12 months of the Contract Effective Date, the award may be terminated."

Execution of a Contract fulfills the Commitment definition in 24 CFR §93.2 in that the Contract is the "legally binding written agreement (that includes the date of the signature of each person signing the agreement) with an eligible recipient for a project that meets the definition of 'commit to a specific local project.'" Additionally, 10 TAC §13.11(c)(13) states: "Termination of the Direct Loan award and repayment of all disbursed funds will be required for any Development that is not completed within four years of the effective date of a Direct Loan Contract." Finally, the Department may impose a two year ban on applying for MFDL for any applicant that fails to meet commitment and/or expenditure requirements in accordance with 10 TAC §13.11(a) and (b), which states: "Direct Loan awardees must satisfactorily complete the following Post-Award Requirements after the Board approval date. If a Direct Loan award is declined by the Direct Loan awardee and returned after Board approval, or if the Direct Loan awardee or affiliates fail to timely enter into the Contract, close the loan, begin and complete construction, or leave a portion of the Direct Loan award unexpended, penalties may apply under 10 TAC §11.9(f)(relating to Competitive HTC Selection Criteria), and/or the Department may prohibit the Applicant and all Affiliates from applying for MFDL funds for a period of two years." See attachments for full text of referenced TDHCA 10 TAC rules.

f. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the rental project has Federal, State, or local project-based rental assistance so that rents are affordable to extremely low-income families. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

While the availability of project-based rental assistance will be considered, only applications that demonstrate the ability to meet Underwriting requirements will be funded.

The State of Texas will consider project based rental assistance to the extent that the existence of it allows or the lack of it does not allow an application to meet TDHCA's underwriting requirements. A development that would otherwise be characterized as infeasible may be deemed feasible if the criteria, as described in 10 TAC §11.302(i)(6)(B) are applicable. See link in the attachments for 10 TAC Chapter 11. For Applications layered with 9% credits, leveraging is a scoring item under 10 TAC §11.9(e)(4). See link in the attachments for 10 TAC Chapter 11. If an application is not layered with 9% credits, it must have other sources of funding, such as project based vouchers, in order to be viable over the affordability period.

10 TAC §13.8 from the Multifamily Direct Loan Rule and 10 TAC §§11.301 through .306 of the Uniform Multifamily Rule will comprise TDHCA's underwriting requirements.

g. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the financial feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

No priority for funding based on the feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period will be given except in instances where a first-lien loan ahead of an NHTF loan or grant has a term greater than 30 years that would result in the NHTF loan or grant having a term greater than 30 years. Texas Government Code §2306.185(c) further limits the length of the affordability period that the State can impose, stating: "The department shall require that a recipient of funding maintains the affordability of the multifamily housing development for households of extremely low, very low, low, and moderate incomes for the greater of a 30-year period from the date the recipient takes legal possession of the housing or the remaining term of the existing federal government assistance. In addition, the agreement between the department and the recipient shall require the renewal of rental subsidies if available and if the subsidies are sufficient to maintain the economic viability of the multifamily development." In other words, absent scoring considerations, unless an FHA-insured loan or similar type of federal government-insured loan with a term greater than 30 years is part of the financing, the longest NHTF affordability period that the State will impose is 30 years. Additionally, for bond layered transactions the NHTF state affordability period will match the length of the affordability period required for the bonds.

h. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the merits of the application in meeting the priority housing needs of the grantee (such as housing that is accessible to transit or employment centers, housing that includes green building and sustainable development features, or housing that serves special needs populations). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

The State of Texas will prioritize HTF funding for the needs of ELI households in accordance with its 2019 State of Texas Analysis of Impediments (AI) recommendations and high opportunity measures of the QAP.

Threshold requirements for all multifamily projects are found in 10 TAC Chapter 11 Subchapter B, which include criteria such as Mandatory Development Amenities, Common Amenities, Unit Requirements, Tenant Supportive Services requirements, and Development Accessibility Requirements. 10 TAC Chapter 11 Subchapter B also includes threshold requirements such as Undesirable Site Features and Undesirable Neighborhood Characteristics. Additionally, Applications layered with 9% Tax Credits are scored on proximity to desirable community features, as are Direct Loan Applications if the fund source or set-aside is over-subscribed.

If layered with 9% Housing Tax Credits, NHTF applicants are allowed to claim points as detailed in §13.6 of the Multifamily Direct Loan Rule and under 10 TAC §11.9(c)(4) related to the Opportunity Index. See link in the attachments for 10 TAC Chapter 11.

i. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

It is anticipated that Applications for NHTF will require multiple funding sources in order to meet threshold feasibility requirements. See the attached Multifamily Direct Loan Rule for text of 10 TAC §13.6(4).

The NOFA limits the amount of subsidy available on a per-unit basis. Without other fund sources, this range of subsidy level will not be possible, so other funding sources – whether owner equity if NHTF is the only source of Department funding or, more likely, Housing Tax Credits since NHTF works best as gap financing – are required. Finally, although not federally required, 10 TAC §11.204(7)(E) discusses documentation requirements for HOME Match funds of requested Direct Loan funds. See link in attachments for text of 10 TAC Chapter 11.

Applications layered with 9% Housing Tax Credits will be subject to scoring in 10 TAC §11.9(e)(4) - Leveraging of Private, State, and Federal Resources - which states:

(A) An Application may qualify to receive up to three (3) points if at least 5% of the total Units are restricted to serve households at or below 30% of AMGI (restrictions elected under other point items may count) and the Housing Tax Credit funding request for the proposed Development meet one of the levels described in clauses (i) - (iv) of this subparagraph: (i) the Development leverages CDBG Disaster Recovery, HOPE VI, RAD, or Choice Neighborhoods funding and the Housing Tax Credit Funding Request is less than 9% of the Total Housing Development Cost (3 points). The Application must include a commitment of such funding; or

(ii) If the Housing Tax Credit funding request is less than seven 9% of the Total Housing Development Cost (3 points); or

(iii) If the Housing Tax Credit funding request is less than eight 10% of the Total Housing Development Cost (2 points); or

(iv) If the Housing Tax Credit funding request is less than nine 11% of the Total Housing Development Cost (1 point).

(B) The calculation of the percentages stated in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph will be based strictly on the figures listed in the Funding Request and Development Cost Schedule. Should staff issue an Administrative Deficiency that requires a change in either form, then the calculation will be performed again and the score adjusted, as necessary. However, points may not increase based on changes to the Application. In order to be eligible for points, no more than 50% of the Developer Fee can be deferred. Where costs or financing change after completion of underwriting or award (whichever occurs later), the points attributed to an Application under this scoring item will not be reassessed unless there is clear evidence that the information in the Application was intentionally misleading or incorrect.

4. **Does the grantee's application require the applicant to include a description of the eligible activities to be conducted with HTF funds? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".**

Yes

5. **Does the grantee's application require that each eligible recipient certify that housing units assisted with HTF funds will comply with HTF requirements? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".**

Yes

6. **Performance Goals and Benchmarks.** The grantee has met the requirement to provide for performance goals and benchmarks against which the grantee will measure its progress, consistent with the grantee's goals established under 24 CFR 91.315(b)(2), by including HTF in its housing goals in the housing table on the SP-45 Goals and AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives screens.

Yes

7. **Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Amount for Housing Assisted with HTF Funds.** Enter or attach the grantee's maximum per-unit development subsidy limits for housing assisted with HTF funds.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

TDHCA adopted the Section 234 Condominium Housing Basic Mortgage Limits (Section 234 Condo Limits) published by HUD, subject to the High Cost Adjustment as allowed for all jurisdictions in Fort Worth HUB, for 2020 and 2021 PY awards made through the Multifamily 2021 NOFAs and the 2022 NOFAs. It plans to do the same with 2023 awards. While TDHCA does not make any FHA-insured loans, the department has adopted the per unit limits for substantial rehab for our Direct Loans (HOME, NHTF, TCAP RF, NSP1 PI) for 2023. The attached limits do not vary based on geographic location in Texas since the limits were approved by HUD for use throughout the state. They will be used statewide for ease of use both for applicants and TDHCA staff.

Additional limits may apply if the NHTF funds are used in conjunction with other affordable housing programs. Also, these subsidy limits may be subject to stricter limits in NOFAs.

Funds from the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program will not be included when evaluating subsidy layering.

See the attached justification as to why the State will not establish separate maximum limitations on the total amount of NHTF.

8. **Rehabilitation Standards.** The grantee must establish rehabilitation standards for all HTF-assisted housing rehabilitation activities that set forth the requirements that the housing must meet upon project completion. The grantee's description of its standards must be in sufficient detail to determine the required rehabilitation work including methods and materials. The standards may refer to applicable codes or they may establish requirements that exceed the minimum requirements of the codes. The grantee must attach its rehabilitation standards below.

In addition, the rehabilitation standards must address each of the following: health and safety; major systems; lead-based paint; accessibility; disaster mitigation (where relevant); state and local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements; Uniform Physical Condition Standards; and Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable).

Rehabilitation Standards are attached.

9. **Resale or Recapture Guidelines.** Below, the grantee must enter (or attach) a description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HTF funds when used to assist first-time homebuyers. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

N/A

10. **HTF Affordable Homeownership Limits.** If the grantee intends to use HTF funds for homebuyer assistance and does not use the HTF affordable homeownership limits for the area provided by HUD, it must determine 95 percent of the median area purchase price and set forth the information in accordance with §93.305. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

☑ The grantee has determined its own affordable homeownership limits using the methodology described in § 93.305(a)(2) and the limits are attached.

N/A

11. **Grantee Limited Beneficiaries or Preferences.** Describe how the grantee will limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population to serve unmet needs identified in its consolidated plan or annual action plan. If the grantee will not limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population, enter "N/A."

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the grantee must not limit or give preferences to students. The grantee may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303(d)(3) only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

The State will limit beneficiaries and/or give preferences to the segments of the extremely low-income population in accordance with AP-25 of the 2023 One-Year Action Plan.

12. **Refinancing of Existing Debt.** Enter or attach the grantee's refinancing guidelines below. The guidelines describe the conditions under which the grantee will refinance existing debt. The grantee's refinancing guidelines must, at minimum, demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing. If the grantee will not refinance existing debt, enter "N/A."

TDHCA may use NHTF funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is being rehabilitated with NHTF funds as described in 24 CFR §93.201(b). TDHCA shall use its underwriting and evaluation standards, site and development requirements, and application and submission requirements found in 10 TAC Chapters 11 and 13, for refinanced properties in accordance with its administrative rules. The NOFA may allow for lower per unit rehabilitation costs than those described at 10 TAC §13.7(c), and the Board may waive the rehabilitation minimums at 10 TAC §11.101(b)(3). At a minimum:

- Rehabilitation costs must be the primary eligible activity for developments involving refinancing of existing debt so the NHTF eligible rehabilitation costs – whether funded entirely or partially by TDHCA's NHTF funds – are greater than the total refinancing costs (i.e. payoff amount plus closing and title costs);
- The proportional rehabilitation cost per NHTF unit must be greater than the proportional amount of debt per NHTF unit that is being refinanced; and
- The proposed NHTF rent on a unit at application must be less than the greater of actual rent being collected from tenants at application or the tenant's portion of the rent payment, as restricted by any entity through a project-based contract, operating subsidy, or by a use agreement.

Discussion:

The State is not proposing to use any form of investment in its NHTF Program that is not already listed as an eligible for investment in 24 CFR §93.201(b). As described above, TDHCA may use NHTF funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is being rehabilitated as described in 24 CFR §93.201. TDHCA will use its underwriting and evaluation standards, site and development requirements, and application and submission requirements found in 10 Texas Administrative Code, Chapters 11 and 13, for refinanced properties in accordance with its administrative rules.