



COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
808 W. SPOKANE FALLS BLVD
SPOKANE, WA 99201

COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES (CHHS) DEPARTMENT

FUNDING NOTICE

2019 CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) PROGRAM COMPETITION



Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Program

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

May 6, 2019

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CHHS CONTACT INFORMATION

Department

Community, Housing, and Human Services (CHHS) Department

808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd

Spokane, WA 99026

509.625.6325 <http://spokanechhs.org>

RFP Coordinator:

Rebekah Tuno, Homeless Program Specialist

509.625.6321

rtuno@spokanecity.org

For email submission, please use:

CHHSRFP@spokanecity.org

rtuno@spokanecity.org

Due to the HUD requirements for renewal projects, interested applicants are encouraged to contact the RFP Coordinator with questions or for technical assistance.

FUNDING ALLOCATION SCHEDULE

Monday	5/6/19	Announce RFP on CHHS Department website, http://spokanechhs.org , and by email distribution to currently funded CoC Projects.
Friday	6/14/19	Last day for technical assistance
Wednesday	6/19/19	Applications Due by 11:59 PM PST. Late submittals will not be accepted.
	6/20/19 – 7/5/19	Application Review
	July 2019	CoC Funding and RFP Committee Performance Review & Ranking
	TBD	RFP & Workshop for New CoC Project Funding
Wednesday	8/28/19	CoC Board Approval
Monday	9/6/19	Notification to Applicants (ranked, rejected, reduced, or reallocated)
	7/1/20 – 1/1/21	Program Year Begins
*The City reserves the right to revise the above schedule. Changes to this schedule will be posted on the CHHS Department website at http://spokanechhs.org/		

ABOUT THE FUNDING

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Please note: As detailed in 23 CFR 578.73 All projects must match all grant funds, except leasing funds, with no less than 25 percent of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources. Cash match must be used for the costs of activities that are eligible under subpart D of this part.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT TYPES

Background:

Homelessness should be rare, brief, and non-recurring. In order to achieve this for all persons experiencing homelessness, our community must transform homeless services to crisis response systems that rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing. All projects serving the homeless should be accessible to the population served and have low barriers to entry. Services should be informed by the value that all people experiencing homelessness are housing ready.

Transitional Housing (TH)

Description: The TH project component may be used to cover the costs of up to 24 months of housing with accompanying support services, providing a period of stability to enable homeless people to transition successfully to and maintain permanent housing within 24 months of program entry. Program participants must have a lease or occupancy agreement in place when residing in TH.

Resources: [Introductory Guide to the Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Program](#)

[SNAPS Weekly Focus: What about Transitional Housing?](#)

Performance Measures:

- Population served (non-scored)
- Utilization
- Number of households served (non-scored)
- % of Households exiting to a permanent housing (PH) destination
- % of Households exiting with income (adult leavers)
- Average VI-SPDAT(households without children)/SPDAT(Households with children) score at project entry
- Average length of stay in project
- Extent to which persons who exit homelessness to PH return to homelessness within 24 months
- Costs per permanent housing outcome
- Financial management
- Data quality reporting timeliness

Eligible Costs: Provisions at 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63 identify the eligible costs for which funding may be requested under the CoC Program. HUD will reject any requests for ineligible costs.

Rental Assistance for Homeless Households

Description: Rapid re-housing (RRH) is designed to assist homeless individuals and families, with or without disability, to move into permanent housing within thirty (30) days of being referred from

Coordinated Entry and achieve stability in that housing. Assistance provided through RRH should focus on progressive engagement and be client-centered. Once clients have been housed, RRH providers should stay connected with them and provide a safety-net, if needed, that promotes long-term housing stability and reduces returns to the homeless system.

Resources:

[Rapid Rehousing: A Best Practice Intervention for Single Adults](#)

[Rapid Rehousing Models for Homeless Youth](#)

[Housing + Employment Works Webinar Series](#)

[Core components of Rapid Re-Housing](#)

[HUD and USICH: Core Principles of Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing Webinar](#)

Performance Measures:

- Population served (non-scored)
- Number of households served (non-scored)
- Average length between enrollment and move-in
- % of Households exiting to a permanent destination
- % of Households exiting with increased income (adult leavers)
- Average VI-SPDAT(households without children)/SPDAT(Households with children) score prior to project entry
- Extent to which persons who exit homelessness to PH return to homelessness within 24 months
- Costs per permanent housing outcome
- Financial management
- Data quality reporting timeliness

Eligible Costs: Provisions at 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63 identify the eligible costs for which funding may be requested under the CoC Program. HUD will reject any requests for ineligible costs.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

Description: PSH projects should have minimal barriers to entry, provide on-site services and prioritize the most vulnerable homeless households. Support services should be informed by harm reduction and employ flexible and creative person-centered services to ensure continued housing stabilization. Services should be available and encouraged but cannot be required as a condition of tenancy. There should be ongoing communication and coordination between supportive service providers, property owners, or managers and housing subsidy programs.

Resources:

[Practical Harm Reduction Strategies](#)

[Housing First in Permanent Supportive Housing](#)

[DedicatedPLUS – Explaining the New Strategy for Ending Chronic Homelessness](#)

Performance Measures:

- Population served (non-scored)
- Utilization
- Number of households served (non-scored)
- % of Households exiting to or retaining permanent housing
- % of Households exiting with increased income (stayers & leavers)
- Average VI-SPDAT(households without children)/SPDAT(households with children) score at project entry
- Extent to which persons who exit homelessness to PH return to homelessness within 24 months
- Costs per permanent housing outcome
- Financial management
- Data quality reporting timeliness

Eligible Costs: Provisions at 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63 identify the eligible costs for which funding may be requested under the CoC Program. HUD will reject any requests for ineligible costs.

Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (SSO – CE)

Description: Coordinated entry is an important process through which people experiencing - or at risk of experiencing - homelessness can access the crisis response system in a streamlined way, have their strengths and needs quickly assessed, and efficiently connect to appropriate, tailored housing and mainstream services within the community or designated region. Standardized assessment tools and practices used within local coordinated assessment processes take into account the unique needs of children and their families, as well as youth. When possible, the assessment provides the ability for households to gain access to the best options to address their needs, incorporating participants' choice, rather than being evaluated for a single program within the system. The most intensive interventions are prioritized for those with the highest needs.

Resources: [Coordinated Entry: Core Elements](#)

Performance Measures:

- Population served (non-scored)
- Number of households served (non-scored)
- Percentage of successful referral outcomes
- Average number of referrals per client during the operating period
- Average length of time between referral start date and successful outcomes
- Costs per permanent housing outcome
- Financial management
- Data quality reporting timeliness

Eligible Costs: Provisions at 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63 identify the eligible costs for which funding may be requested under the CoC Program. HUD will reject any requests for ineligible costs.

Supportive Services Only (SSO)

Description: The SSO program component provides services to homeless individuals and families not residing in housing operated by the recipient. SSO funds can be used to conduct outreach to sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons and families, link clients with housing or other necessary services, and provide ongoing support. SSO projects may be offered in a structure or structures at one central site, or in multiple buildings at scattered sites where services are delivered. Projects may be operated independent of a building (e.g., street outreach) and in a variety of community-based settings, including in homeless programs operated by other agencies.

Resources: [CoC Program Toolkit: Introduction to the Continuum of Care Program](#)

Performance Measures:

- Population served
- Number of households served
- Utilization (emergency shelter typed projects only)
- % of Households exiting to a permanent housing destination
- % of Households who successfully exit from street outreach (street outreach typed projects only)
- Average VI-SPDAT score at project entry
- Average length of stay in project (emergency shelter typed projects only)
- % of households that exit to temporary & some institutional destinations (street outreach typed projects only)
- Extent to which persons who exit homelessness to PH return to homelessness within 12 months
- Costs per household served
- Financial management
- Data quality reporting timeliness

Eligible Costs: Provisions at 24 CFR 578.37 through 578.63 identify the eligible costs for which funding may be requested under the CoC Program. HUD will reject any requests for ineligible costs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicant/recipients include:

- Public and private nonprofit organizations – typically 501(c)(3) currently receiving funding via the WA-502 City/County Continuum of Care Program.

FUNDING PRIORITIES AND KEY ASSUMPTIONS

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Policy and Priorities:

1. ***Ending homelessness for all persons.*** To end homelessness, CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that consider the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area (e.g., veterans, youth, families, or those experiencing chronic homelessness). CoCs should have a comprehensive outreach strategy in place to identify and continuously engage all unsheltered individuals and families. Additionally, CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs. Finally, CoCs should use the reallocation process to create new projects that improve their overall performance and better respond to their needs.

2. ***Creating a systemic response to homelessness.*** CoCs should be using system performance measures such as the average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, and rates of exit to permanent housing destinations to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should use their Coordinated Entry process to promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing and services to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent.

3. ***Strategically allocating and using resources.*** Using cost, performance, and outcome data, CoCs should improve how resources are utilized to end homelessness. CoCs should review project quality, performance, and cost effectiveness. HUD also encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources when serving persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should also work to develop partnerships with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to work toward helping CoC Program participants' exit permanent supportive housing through Housing Choice Vouchers and other available housing options. Finally, CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2018 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness, including cost effectiveness.

4. ***Use a Housing First approach.*** Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions. CoC Program funded projects should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing, and the CoC should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners, remove barriers to entry, and adopt client-centered service

The Spokane City / County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board has established the following vision, mission, and goals:

Vision: The Vision of the Spokane City/County CoC is to bring together resources and resourceful people who create a community where everyone has a safe, stable place to call home.

Mission: The mission of the community-based Spokane City/County CoC is to prevent and end homelessness in our area by fostering shared responsibility among stakeholders and coordinating resources essential to the success of local plans to end homelessness.

Goals: The following goals represent the desired results of successful implementation of regional plans to end homelessness for all experiencing homelessness, including families, youth, veterans, and the chronically homeless.

Goal I: Construct and approve an integrated regional Strategic Plan to End Homelessness and coordinate with other regional plans related to homelessness issues.

Goal II: Increase leadership, collaboration, and civic engagement.

Goal III: Increase access to stable and affordable housing.

Goal IV: Support effective pathways toward self-sufficiency and reduced financial vulnerability.

Goal V: Transform homeless services to crisis response systems, including shelters, transitional housing, and other forms of temporary housing, leading to improved health and safety.

Goal VI: Advance health and housing stability efforts.

Goal VII: Annually review the Strategic Plan to End Homelessness, including its goals and objectives, and make revisions as necessary to stay abreast of dynamic conditions.

Successful applicants will demonstrate that their proposal meets one or more of the goals, objectives, and strategies listed in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan to End Homelessness for Spokane, Washington, which are listed below. The complete plan document can found on the City of Spokane CHHS website at <https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/chhs/plans-reports/planning/2015-2020-strategic-plan-to-end-homelessness.pdf>

Primary Goals

Retool the homeless response system to¹:

- End Veteran homelessness by 2021
- End Chronic homelessness by 2021
- End Family homelessness by 2021

¹ Primary goal dates for each population have been changed from the City of Spokane 2015 – 2020 Plan to End Homelessness as the Plan is current under revision by the City/County Continuum of Care Board.

- End Youth homelessness by 2022

Objectives

1. Increase Leadership, Collaboration, and Civic Engagement
 - a. Expand partnerships and create efficiencies by increasing coordination and integration
 - b. Advocate for state and federal legislation and financing
 - c. Increase knowledge about homelessness and successful collaborations and interventions to prevent and end homelessness
 - d. Compile and disseminate research to increase best practices and cost- effectiveness
 - e. Increase capacity of delivery system
 - f. Reduce the criminalization of homelessness by defining constructive approaches
2. Increase Access to Stable and Affordable Housing
 - a. Support affordable housing subsidies
 - b. Expand the supply of affordable rental units
 - c. Increase service-enriched permanent housing for individuals with high barriers
 - d. Implement a system-wide housing first philosophy and low-barrier housing
 - e. Prioritize and target those most vulnerable including veterans, chronic homeless, families and youth
 - f. Create a pathway for those in Permanent Supportive Housing to move to affordable housing
 - g. Commit to ending veteran homelessness by 2021
 - h. Continue support for temporary housing that connects to Permanent Supportive Housing.
 - i. Develop strong landlord relations and explore landlord mitigation funds
3. Support effective pathways toward self-sufficiency and reduced financial vulnerability
 - a. Improve coordination of employment programs with homeless assistance programs
 - b. Improve access to mainstream programs and services and increase the percentage of homeless housing participants obtaining non-cash mainstream benefits
 - c. Identify and implement best practices, including supportive employment and client-tailored wrap around services
 - d. Increase the percentage of homeless housing participants who increase employment income
 - e. Increase access to education, educational outcomes and living wage jobs
4. Transform homeless services to crisis response systems leading to improved health and safety
 - a. Institute system-wide partnerships and best practice models
 - b. Increase successful service delivery for in-home service
 - c. Promote outreach to high utilizers of system resources
 - d. Institute rapid re-housing as a strategic tool to end family homelessness
 - e. Utilize data-driven systems
 - f. Explore using flexible funds for meeting unique and multiples needs of individuals/families to prevent homeless or stabilize them

5. Advance health and housing stability for youth experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied homeless youth and youth aging out of systems such as foster care and juvenile justice.
 - a. Improve discharge planning from foster care and juvenile justice
 - b. Increase housing resources and remove barriers
 - c. Promote outreach to youth who may be high utilizers of system resources
 - d. Improve resources for unaccompanied youth
 - e. Improve the count of homeless youth

Key Assumptions Incorporated in this Funding Notice:

- Projects are expected to leverage all other mainstream system resources, including education/employment, healthcare, etc.;
- Projects will demonstrate Housing First practices (low admission criteria);
- Projects funded to provide RRH will work collaboratively with Coordinated Entry to ensure streamlined processes that will result in households' homeless episode ending in 30 days or less;
- Projects funded for Coordinated Entry will work collaboratively with the RRH providers to ensure streamline processes that will result clients' households homeless episode ending in thirty (30) days or less;
- Projects providing or supporting permanent housing will ensure that client assessments are completed in the timeline and method detailed in the contract;
- Projects will ensure culturally appropriate and responsive services;
- Projects will gear their program models to a "move up strategy" valuing recovery and graduation from housing units with intensive services;
- Projects will collect data and enter records into the City Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for every client served. HMIS data collection and entry will be in accordance with applicable HMIS data standards and guidelines HMIS data for any given month will be entered and accurate no later than the 5th day of the following month;
- Projects will participate in the Coordinated Entry System; and
- Projects will align with Spokane's CoC system-wide performance measures.

All projects applying under this funding notice are expected to leverage operating and services funding from other sources to the maximum extent feasible including, but not limited to, such sources as Veterans Administration sources, Medicaid, and private fundraising. If a Medicaid supportive housing benefit can be obtained - and projects have the ability to leverage Medicaid funding for services linked to housing - we anticipate reducing funding based on this ability to leverage funds.

FUNDS AVAILABLE

The City of Spokane estimates funding in order to start the grant application process; therefore, funding amounts shown in the table below are estimates. If the funder awards a different amount to these programs than what was estimated, actual funding awards will be increased or decreased to accommodate the discrepancy. CoC Program projects are initially funded for 12 months. Projects must compete annually for continued funding under the CoC Program.

FY 2019 Continuum of Care Competition: Renewal Funding	
Project Type	Total
Supportive Service Only (SSO)	\$44,416
Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)	\$228,000
Transitional Housing (TH) (renewal projects only)	\$139,673
Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH)	\$1,432,382
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	\$1,646,235
Estimated Total Available	\$3,490,706*

*excludes Collaborative Applicant HMIS & CoC Planning grant

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND INSTRUCTIONS

Application documents will be available beginning May 6, 2019. You may download the application from the CHHS Department website <https://spokanecity.org/chhs/>, request it by email from spokanechhs@spokanecity.org, or call 509.625.6325 to request a copy by mail or to have it emailed. Please read the instructions carefully.

Renewal application submission deadline is June 19, 2019 at 11:59 PM PST. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered for funding.

Important Note:

Applicants may submit ONE application for renewal projects of the same intervention type that serve the same population AND operate under the same policies and procedural documents. If you have questions, contact the RFP Coordinator.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to be sure the proposals are submitted ahead of time. Due to using an online technology system, applicants are encouraged to submit proposals in advance prior to the deadline. The City of Spokane reserves the right to waive minor administrative irregularities.

For questions or assistance completing an application for funds, contact the RFP Coordinator, Rebekah Tuno, at 509.625.6321 or via email at the following address: rtuno@spokanecity.org.

Applications are considered complete if they meet the following criteria:

- Application is submitted by the application submission deadline
- All required application questions/sections are complete
- City of Spokane CHHS Applicant Pre-Award Risk Assessment OR a narrative explaining organizational changes (such as changes in key staff or business systems, and any new audit reports or monitoring results), as applicable, if submitted with the CHHS 5-Year RFP application in December 2018.
- Required attachments are submitted with the application packet
- Application is signed and dated by the person authorized to legally bind the organization to a contractual relationship with the City of Spokane

Required attachments are:

- Subrecipient Nonprofit Documentation
- Letter of Commitment for match required
- HUD Form 2880 - Applicant / Recipient Disclosure Update Report dated between 6/1/19 – 6/30/19
- City of Spokane CHHS Applicant Pre-Award Risk Assessment

IMPORTANT: Applicants that submitted a Pre-Award Risk Assessment with their completed CHHS 5-Year RFP application in December 2018 do not need to submit a new assessment. If the applicant had any organizational changes (such as changes in key staff or business systems, and any new audit reports or monitoring results) since the last organizational risk assessment, please submit a narrative explaining those changes. If a Pre-Award Risk Assessment was submitted with the agency's completed CHHS 5-Year RFP application in December 2018 **and** no organizational changes occurred since that time, no further action is needed by the applicant. Contact the RFP coordinator if further clarification is needed.

Grant Consolidations:

HUD is allowing existing renewal projects (up to four projects) to consolidate into one project. If you are interested in this option, ***you must schedule a meeting with the RFP Coordinator to discuss consolidation. These meetings must take place on or before June 14th.*** Contact rtuno@spokanecity.org to schedule that planning meeting.

Please submit your complete application and required attachments electronically in PDF format no later than 11:59 PM PST on June 19, 2019. Applications should be emailed to spokanechhs@spokanecity.org and rtuno@spokanecity.org. Agencies will receive a reply receipt when applications are received.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

One-on-one technical assistance is available upon request. Please contact the RFP Coordinator, Rebekah Tuno, by phone at 509.625.6325 or via email at rtuno@spokanecity.org for questions regarding project eligibility, consolidation/prioritization of multiple needs, clarification of application questions, etc. Interested applicants are encouraged to contact CHHS staff with questions or for technical assistance.

HUD INCOME LIMITS

FY 2019 Income Limits Summary

FY 2019 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income Explanation	FY 2019 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Spokane, WA HUD Metro FMR Area	\$72,700	Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$) Explanation	25,100	28,700	32,300	35,850	38,750	41,600	44,500	47,350
		Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)* Explanation	15,050	17,200	21,330	25,750	30,170	34,590	39,010	43,430
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$) Explanation	40,150	45,900	51,650	57,350	61,950	66,550	71,150	75,750

Above Income information is available at [FY 2019 HUD Income Limits](#)

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

This is a competitive application process for limited funding; therefore, applications that meet all criteria are not guaranteed an award of funds. Successful applications may be funded for less than the total amount requested.

All applications will go through the following evaluation and review process:

- Part I:
 - Staff Project Review

- Eligibility Determination
- Risk Assessment (capacity to administer, current audit findings, etc.)
- Due Diligence Review
- Part II:
 - CoC Funding and RFP Committee Review
 - Project Performance
 - Initial Ranking
- Part III:
 - Priority Listing (Final Ranking List)
 - CoC Board Approval
 - Submission to HUD

Funding recommendations will go before the Spokane City Council after formal announcement from HUD. The public is invited to provide testimony at this hearing on the proposed allocations.

Please reference the Renewal Ranking Review Procedures, available on the City of Spokane CHHS Department website under CoC Available Funding for additional information regarding application and performance review.

NOTIFICATION TO APPLICANTS

After award recommendations have been determined, Applicants will be sent Intent to Award notification.

DEBRIEFING OF UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

Upon request, a debriefing conference will be scheduled with an unsuccessful Applicant. Discussion will be limited to a critique of the requesting Contractor's Application. Comparisons between Applications or evaluations of the other Applications will not be allowed. Debriefing conferences may be conducted in person or on the telephone.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

Applicants wishing to appeal the award of the contract must make their appeal to the City Administrator.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION / PUBLIC DISCLOSURE: Materials submitted in response to this competitive process shall become the property of the City.

All applications received shall remain confidential until the award of contract recommendation has been filed with the City Clerk for City Council action. Thereafter, the Applications shall be deemed public records as defined in RCW 42.17.250 to 42.17.340, "Public Records."

Any information in the application that the applicant desires to claim as proprietary and exempt from disclosure under the provisions of state law shall be clearly designated. Each page claimed to be exempt from disclosure must be clearly identified by the word "Confidential" printed on it. Marking the entire application exempt from disclosure will not be honored.

The City will consider an applicant's request for exemption from disclosure; however, the City will make a decision predicated upon state law and regulations. If any information is marked as proprietary in the application, it will not be made available until the affected applicant has been given an opportunity to seek a court injunction against the requested disclosure.

All requests for information should be directed to the RFP Coordinator.

REVISIONS TO THE RFP: In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, addenda will be posted on the Community, Housing and Human Services Department website. Applicants are encouraged to monitor the website for any changes and/or notifications.

The City also reserves the right to cancel or to reissue the RFP in whole or in part, prior to final award of a contract.

RESPONSIVENESS: All applications will be reviewed by the RFP Coordinator or designee to determine compliance with administrative requirements and instructions specified in this RFP. The applicant is specifically notified that failure to comply with any part of the RFP may result in rejection of the application as non-responsive.

The City reserves the right at its sole discretion to waive minor administrative irregularities.

MINORITY & WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS PARTICIPATION: The City encourages participation in all of its contracts by firms certified by the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE). Applicants may contact OMWBE at 360/753-9693 to obtain information on certified firms.

MOST FAVORABLE TERMS: The City reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of the application submitted. Therefore, the application should be submitted initially on the most favorable terms which the Contractor can propose. There will be no best and final offer procedure. The City does reserve the right to contact an applicant for clarification of its application.

CONTRACT TERMS

CITY OF SPOKANE BUSINESS LICENSE: Persons/firms doing business in the City - or with the City - must have a valid City of Spokane business license. Questions may be directed to the Taxes and Licenses Division at 509.625.6070.

ANTI-KICKBACK: No officer or employee of the City of Spokane, having the power or duty to perform an official act or action related to contracts resulting from this RFP shall have or acquire any interest in the contract, or have solicited, accepted or granted a present or future gift, favor, service or other thing of value from or to any person involved in the contract.

ASSIGNMENT: Agency shall not assign, transfer or subcontract its interest, in whole or in part, without the written consent of the authorizing official for the City of Spokane.

NON-WAIVER: No delay or waiver, by either party, to exercise any contractual right shall be considered as a waiver of such right or any other right.

SEVERABILITY: In the event any provision of a resulting contract should become invalid, the rest of the contract shall remain in full force and effect.

DISPUTES: Any contract resulting from this RFP shall be performed under the laws of Washington State. Any litigation to enforce said contract or any of its provisions shall be brought in Spokane County, Washington.

NONDISCRIMINATION: No individual shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, subjected to discrimination under, or denied employment in the administration of or in connection with this agreement because of age, sex, race, color, religion, creed, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation including gender expression or gender identity, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or use of a service animal by a person with disabilities.

LIABILITY: The applicant will be considered an independent contractor and the Agency, its officers, employees, agents or subcontractors shall not be considered to be employees or agents of the City. The Agency shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City from all loss, liability, damage, death or injury to any person or property arising from the performance or omission of the Agency, its agents or employees, arising directly or indirectly, as a consequence of this contract.

INTERNAL AUDITING CONTROL: The Agency shall establish and maintain a system of internal accounting control which compiles with applicable generally accepted accounting principles and governmental accounting and financial reporting standards. A copy of the Agency's most recent audited financial statement shall be kept on file in the CHHS Department. The City has the right to supervise and audit the finances of the Agency to ensure that actual expenditures remain consistent with the spirit and intent of any contract resulting from this RFP. The City of Spokane and/or its funding agencies and auditors may inspect and audit all records and other materials and the Agency shall make such available upon request.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs, and services for persons with disabilities. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Christine Cavanaugh at 509.625.6383, 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, Washington, 99201; or ccavanaugh@spokanecity.org. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Ms. Christine Cavanaugh at 509.625.6383 through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact the City forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.

EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY ACT INFORMATION: The federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA), 15 U.S.C. 1691 et seq., prohibits creditors from discriminating against credit applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or marital status, or age (provided the applicant has the capacity to contract); because all or part of the applicant's income derives from any public assistance program; or because the applicant has in good faith exercised any right under the Consumer Credit Protection Act. The federal agency that administers compliance with this law concerning this creditor is the Consumer Response Center, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580. For information regarding the ECOA, see http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/hce/housing_ecoa.php.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION: The City is pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the Nation. The City encourages and supports an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.

WASHINGTON LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION INFORMATION: We do business in accordance with the Washington Law Against Discrimination, RCW 49.60, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, disability, HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C status, use of guide dog or service animal, sex, marital status, age (employment only), families with children (housing only), sexual orientation/gender identity, and honorably discharged veteran or military status.