

FY2021 MD-514 CoC Grant Reallocation Policy

As a condition to the creation of the Maryland Balance of State Continuum of Care; five existing CoC's agreed to merge under the agreement that no existing CoC-funded projects would be reallocated by the Balance of State for the first two competition years. The premise of this plan is to allow time for existing projects to improve performance, where needed, under the leadership of a Balance of State model, before dollars were reallocated to new projects. The first year that projects may be subject to involuntary reallocation will be FY2022.

It is the intention of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, the CoC Lead Agency, to establish and implement a robust CoC-wide monitoring and performance improvement plan in 2021. Existing projects will have the opportunity to have current performance and grant management evaluated and allow for time to receive necessary technical assistance to improve in any areas found to be inadequate. The overarching goal of the CoC is to improve system performance as a whole.

With that, MD-514 will not facilitate any involuntary reallocation of renewing CoC-funded projects during the FY2020 and FY2021 funding competitions.

In the future, MD-514 will use CoC-wide data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness in order to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs through the CoC competition. MD-514 will use the reallocation process to create new projects that will improve the overall system performance and better respond to the community need.

Local Homeless Coalition Request

Although the Balance of State CoC Competition Policy will not seek to reallocate funds from renewing projects in the upcoming competition cycle, Local Homeless Coalitions will be provided the opportunity to request reallocation for projects in their jurisdiction. An LHC may have knowledge of historical performance concerns or community needs that may be best addressed through a reallocation of funds. LHCs will be given the opportunity to provide this information to DCHC staff during the competition timeline.

Voluntary Reallocation Policy

Although there are no official involuntary reallocation plans at this time, renewal projects within the MD-514 geography may elect to voluntarily reallocate project funds, if so desired. CoC programs that are not housing first, who demonstrate low performance, or have a high recapture rate may voluntarily reallocate a portion, or all, of their grant. Funds from projects that are voluntarily reallocated may be used to fund higher performing new projects. DHCD will offer technical support and acknowledgement letters for agencies who voluntarily reallocate grant awards.