

GRANT AND PER DIEM (GPD) PROGRAM

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO) OVERVIEW:

PER DIEM ONLY (PDO)

APPLICATIONS DUE BY 4:00 PM EASTERN TIME ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

RECORDING LINK NOFO OVERVIEW: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/ldr.php?RCID=358e156f095b48a82fd36627f1f795bf>

RECORDING PASSWORD: Homeless1!

RECORDING LINK DEMO OF eGMS: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/veteransaffairs/recording/1af6b5d7b8fe103ea3ee1e9fa19a5883/playback>

RECORDING PASSWORD: Homeless1!

OBJECTIVES

- Provide an overview of the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) program's **Per Diem Only (PDO)** Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
 - Period of performance **beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 (October 1, 2026)**
- Participants will learn about the requirements of the PDO NOFO.
 - Overview of NOFO Information
 - Funding opportunity description
 - Award information
 - Eligibility
 - Application and scoring information
 - Application review process
 - Award administration
- Participants will learn about the application process through GPD's electronic grants management system and where to access additional resources.
- The published **NOFO is the authoritative source for all information** and the official record
- In the event there is any question or discrepancy between information in this technical assistance presentation and the published NOFO, the published NOFO is the definitive resource
- **This presentation should not be used in lieu of careful reading of the NOFO or GPD regulations**

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- The GPD National Program Office has announced three (3) separate NOFOs.
- Ensure you complete the application for the correct type of NOFO.
 - Published NOFOs can be found on the [GPD website](#), and www.grants.gov.
- Submit your application well in advance of the deadline. Note that SN and TIP applications have a different due date than PDO applications.
 - Applications received after the deadline, for any reason, will be deemed ineligible.
- Applications must be submitted via [GPD's electronic grants management system](#) (eGMS).
- eGMS has controls to prevent the late submission of applications and timestamps all applications received to ensure clarity on whether they were submitted before or after 4:00 pm Eastern Time.

| NOFO Type | Application Deadline |
|----------------------------|--|
| Special Need (SN) | Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 4:00 pm Eastern Time |
| Transition in Place (TIP) | Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 4:00 pm Eastern Time |
| Per Diem Only (PDO) | Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 4:00 pm Eastern Time |

PDO FUNDING OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

- PDO applicants will request funding to provide **transitional housing** with supportive services and/or a **service center**.
- Any eligible entity may apply for funding, including **current GPD grantees** and **new organizations** that meet program eligibility criteria.
- Grants will be for up to **three (3) years** starting in FY 2027 on October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2029.
- GPD expects to fund approximately **10,500 transitional housing beds** and **15 service centers** nationwide.
- Transitional housing applicants will apply to provide services under one or a combination of bed models (i.e., Bridge Housing, Clinical Treatment, Hospital to Housing, Low Demand and/or Service Intensive).
- Separate applications required for transitional housing and service centers.
- Grants are nationally competitive, and there is no guarantee of funding.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- These grants support the President's priority to reduce homelessness and increase the excellence of and options for care, benefits, and services for veterans, as demonstrated in [Executive Order 14296 - Keeping Promises to Veterans and Establishing a National Center for Warrior Independence](#).
- In accordance with [Executive Order 14332, Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#), aside from the evaluation criteria published in this announcement, VA has discretion to remove from consideration any applicant VA deems does not demonstrably advance the President's or VA's priorities.
- VA will not fund activities that use racial preference for eligibility criteria or promote gender ideology.
- VA will not fund activities that promote or facilitate violations of immigration laws or are sources of waste, fraud, or abuse.
- VA will not tolerate activity or conduct by grant recipients that constitute acts of moral turpitude, are scandalous, or bring the recipient, the project funded by this grant, or VA into public disrepute, contempt, or ridicule.

ELIGIBILITY

- **Applicant eligibility:**

- An entity is eligible to apply if it is a **501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) nonprofit** organization, **state or local government** agency or federally recognized **Indian Tribal government** that meets the requirements in [38 C.F.R. § 61.1](#).
- Eligible entities may submit up to one transitional housing and one service center application per EIN, per VA medical facility catchment area.
 - May **not** request both transitional supportive housing beds and a service center within the same application.
- Eligible entities must have an active registration in the [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#) and must maintain their active status throughout the grant award period.

- **Veteran participant eligibility:**

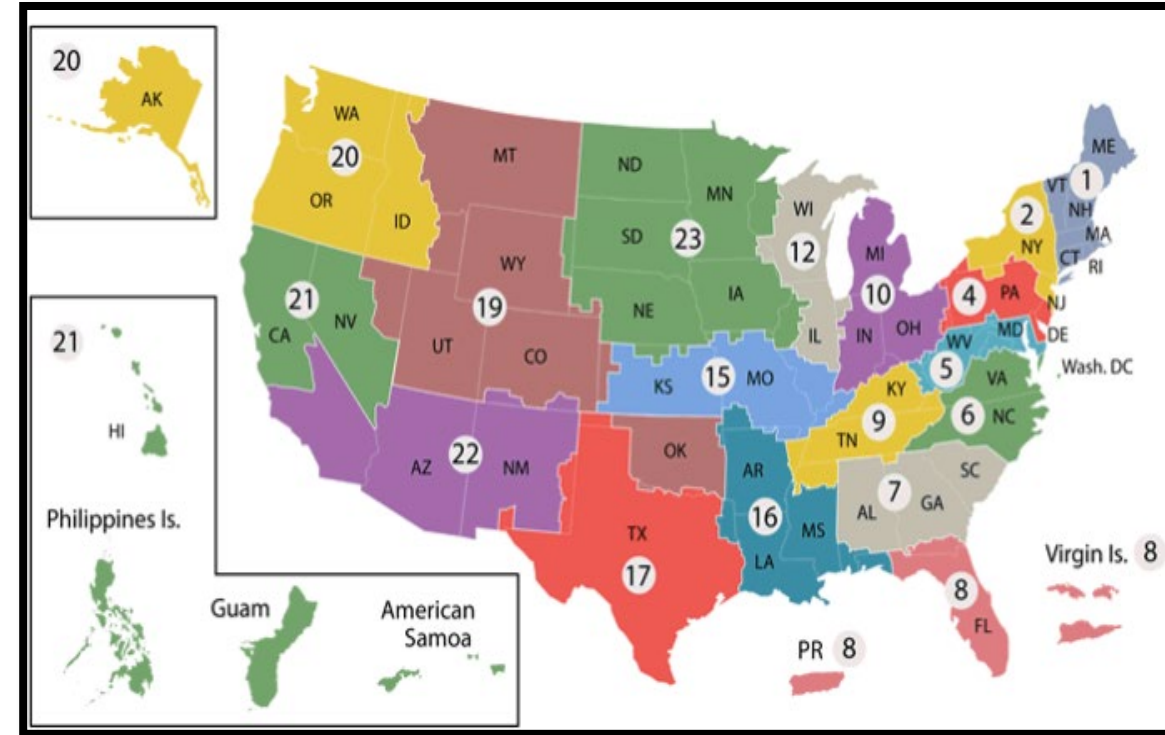
- For the purpose of GPD eligibility, “[Veteran](#)” is defined as “a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released therefrom,” excluding anyone who received a dishonorable discharge from the Armed Forces or was discharged or dismissed from the Armed Forces by reason of the sentence of a general court-martial. 38 U.S.C. § 2002(b).

BACKGROUND

- The [GPD Program](#) began in 1994 and is VA's largest transitional housing program for Veterans experiencing homelessness. The program's statutory authority has expanded several times and now includes 5 different types of grant awards (i.e., **Per Diem Only**, Transition In Place, Special Need, Case Management, Capital grants).
- PDO grants are for transitional housing with wraparound supportive services or service centers. Services are targeted to unsheltered Veterans experiencing homelessness.
 - Veterans may stay in the program up to 24 months, but the goal is to facilitate the movement to permanent housing as quickly as is clinically appropriate.
 - Current average length of stay in GPD, nationally, **is less than 6 months**.
 - Grantees employ strategies to outreach and engage Veterans in their community.
 - Grantees offer **same-day access to housing and services** eliminating barriers that may delay admission.
 - Services provided support Veterans with securing affordable permanent housing, as well as increasing their income through employment and/or benefits.

BACKGROUND

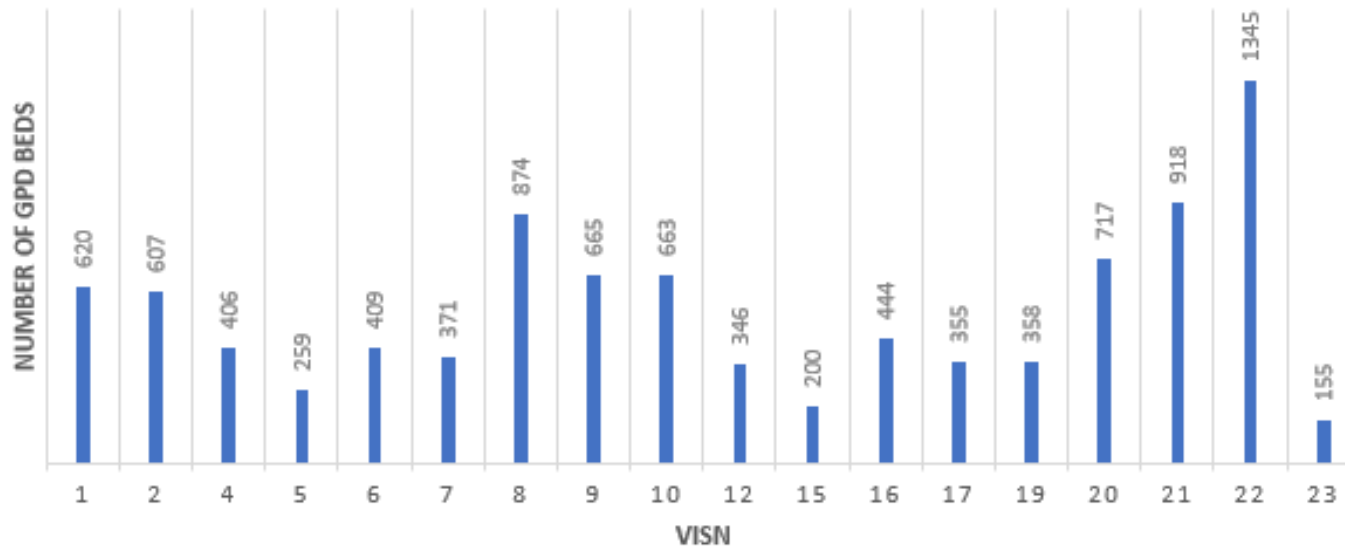
- The GPD Program is organizationally aligned under the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).
 - Grants are nationally administered with operational oversight provided by local VA medical facilities.
- VHA is organized into 18 regions called Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs).
- Every VISN has a Network Homeless Coordinator (NHC).
 - NHCs have a variety of leadership and coordination responsibilities related to homeless services within the network.
- Every VA medical facility with a GPD grant has a GPD liaison.
 - Approximately 280 nationally.
 - Provide oversight and monitoring of GPD grants.
- Find your VA medical facility: <https://www.va.gov/find-locations/>



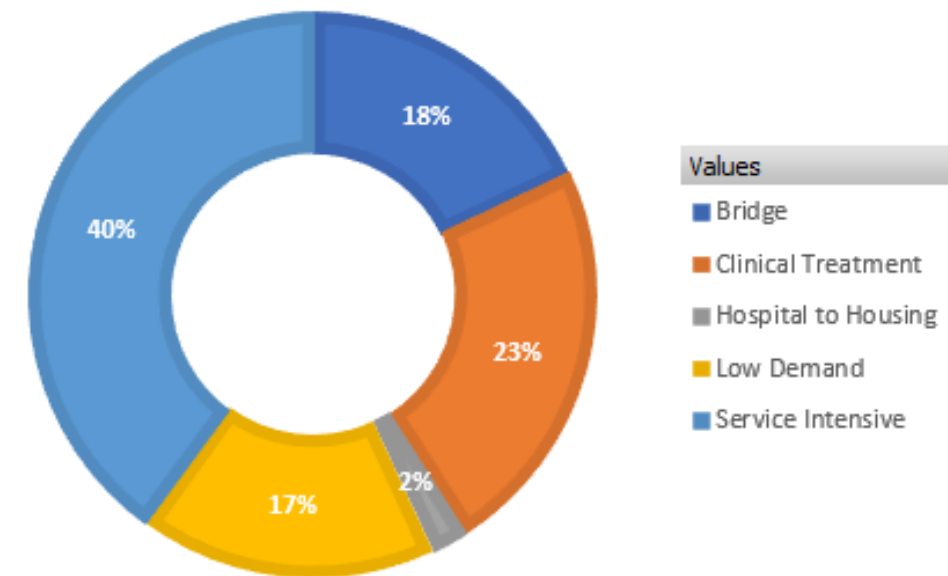
BACKGROUND

- Periodic reapplication of GPD grants allows resources for Veterans experiencing homelessness to be updated to meet current community needs.
 - Are the same, more, or less beds needed in your catchment area?
 - Are there new communities that do not currently have GPD beds that could benefit from this resource?
 - How has the changing landscape of resources impacted local demand for transitional housing?
 - Are different bed models needed in your community?
 - What updates to staffing and services are needed?

CURRENT PDO BEDS BY VISN



CURRENT PDO BED MODEL DISTRIBUTION



PDO BED MODELS

- **Maximum 1 transitional housing application per EIN, per VAMC catchment area.**
- PDO transitional housing applicants must propose services utilizing one, some, or all of the 5 possible bed models.
- Each application for transitional supportive housing beds must include a **minimum of one housing model per application** and a **minimum of five beds per housing model**.
 - Bridge
 - Clinical Treatment
 - Hospital to Housing
 - Low Demand
 - Service Intensive
- PDO applicants may request per diem funding for an independent drop-in service center under a **separate** application.
 - Maximum 1 service center application per EIN, per VAMC catchment area.
- Applicants **may not** apply for Transition In Place (TIP) and/or Special Need (SN) housing models under the PDO NOFO.
 - TIP and SN funding opportunities were published under separate NOFOs.

PDO BED MODELS – BRIDGE

- Transitional housing applicants will apply to provide services under one or a combination of bed models.
 - **Bridge Housing** - designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who have been offered and have accepted a permanent housing intervention but are not able to immediately enter the permanent housing (e.g., HUD-VASH, SSVF).
 - **Short-term stay** in transitional housing (approx. 90 days).
 - Individual Service Plan (ISP) should be short-term with the focus on the move to permanent housing.
 - Veterans are expected to receive case management and support, which should be coordinated with HUD-VASH, SSVF, or other available community-based programs.
 - Grantees offer a menu of available services and assist Veterans with accessing services as needed or as requested by the Veteran.

PDO BED MODELS – CLINICAL TREATMENT

- **Clinical Treatment** - designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness with a specific diagnosis related to a substance use disorder and/or a mental health diagnosis.
 - Veteran **actively chooses** to engage in clinical services.
 - Clinically focused treatment provided in conjunction with services to secure permanent housing and increase income through benefits or employment.
 - **Treatment services must be provided by the applicant** or by a subrecipient or contractor; VA staff cannot be the treatment provider for this model.
 - Staff must be licensed or credentialed to perform the substance use disorder or mental health services proposed as directed by State and local law.
 - Veterans are offered a variety of treatment service modalities (e.g., individual and group counseling, individual therapy, family support groups, family therapy, psychoeducation).

PDO BED MODELS – HOSPITAL TO HOUSING

- **Hospital to Housing** - designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who are identified and evaluated at inpatient care settings and emergency departments for suitability for direct transfer to GPD transitional housing.
 - Referrals for Veterans served may come from VA care teams or community-based medical, mental health, and substance abuse treatment providers.
 - Respite-type care is a medical model to address the housing and recuperative care needs of Veterans experiencing homelessness who have been hospitalized.
 - Grantee housing sites are expected to be near the referring facility so that ongoing clinical care—including specialty care—can be provided.
 - Applicants must have a post-discharge care plan as a pre-requisite to placement that addresses ongoing physical, substance use disorder, mental health and social work needs.
 - Care management plans must be in place to transition the Veteran to permanent housing upon clinical stabilization.
 - Small in size (typically 10 beds or less).

PDO BED MODELS – LOW DEMAND

- **Low Demand** - designed for Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness who suffer from substance use disorders or mental health diagnoses, or who struggle with maintaining sobriety.
 - **Harm-reduction model** to better accommodate Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness and Veterans who were unsuccessful in traditional treatment settings.
 - Programming does not require sobriety or compliance with mental health treatment as a condition of admission or continued stay.
 - **Demands are kept to a minimum**, with services made widely available and actively promoted by program staff.
 - Goal is to establish permanent housing in the community, while providing for the safety of staff and residents.
 - Small in size (typically 20 beds or less).
 - **Must have 24/7, paid, appropriately trained, on-site staffing** at the same location as the participants.
 - Commitment to keeping the Veterans housed, staying continuously engaged with each Veteran, and providing services as needed.

PDO BED MODELS – SERVICE INTENSIVE

- **Service Intensive** - designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who choose a supportive transitional housing environment providing services prior to entering permanent housing.
 - Transitional housing and an array of comprehensive services that facilitate individual stabilization and movement to permanent housing as rapidly as clinically appropriate.
 - Scope of services incorporates tactics to increase the Veteran’s income through employment and/or benefits and obtaining permanent housing.
 - Services provided and strategies used by the applicant will vary.
 - Applicants specify the staffing levels and comprehensive array of services to be provided.
 - NOFO establishes a [maximum number of Service Intensive beds](#) allowed per application.
 - LOS is individually determined based on need, but in general LOS is expected to average 6-12 months and not to exceed 24 months.

PDO PERFORMANCE METRICS

- The **Homeless Operations, Management, and Evaluation System (HOMES)** is VA's primary platform for collecting intake, progress, and outcome information for homeless Veterans as they move through VA's system of care.
 - HOMES entry and exit forms will be documented for **every** Veteran in GPD.
 - Individual grantee performance is available monthly.

| | Bridge Housing | Clinical Treatment | Hospital to Housing | Low Demand | Service Intensive |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Veterans Discharged to Permanent Housing | ≥75% | ≥65% | ≥65% | ≥60% | ≥70% |
| Veterans Discharged with a Negative Exit (lower is better) | ≤20% | ≤20% | ≤20% | ≤20% | ≤20% |
| Veterans Discharged with Competitive Employment | N/A | ≥55% | N/A | N/A | ≥60% |

PDO SERVICE CENTERS

- Designed for Veterans experiencing homelessness who are seeking assistance with obtaining housing, employment, medical care or benefits.
- Provides on-demand services and information to engage and aid Veterans experiencing homelessness so they may access housing resources and services.
- Services provided and strategies used by the applicant will vary based on the individual needs of the Veteran and resources available in the community.
- Service centers shall provide services, generally in-person, **for a minimum of 40 hours per week over a minimum of 5 days per week**, as well as provide services on an as-needed, unscheduled basis.
 - See [38 C.F.R. § 61.80](#) for additional information about service centers.

USE OF FUNDS

- Per diem funding supports costs to operate transitional housing or service center projects.
- Each application for transitional housing beds must include a **minimum of one bed model** per application and a **minimum of five beds** per housing model.
- Each application for transitional housing beds may include any combination of one, some, or all transitional housing models (i.e., Bridge Housing, Clinical Treatment, Hospital to Housing, Low Demand and Service Intensive).
- Each application for transitional supportive housing beds must include **all housing model(s), site(s) and beds for the VA medical facility catchment area within a single application.**
- Separate applications are required for transitional housing vs. service center requests.
- Funding under this NOFO may not be used for capital improvements or to purchase vans or real property.
 - Vehicles may be leased to facilitate required transportation.
- Allowable costs are defined for all Federal grants in [2 C.F.R. § 200 subpart E](#) - Cost Principles, as well as for GPD in [38 C.F.R. § 61](#). Costs must be treated consistently with the grantee's normal written standards.

USE OF FUNDS

- Consistent with prior PDO NOFO's, applicants are limited in the number of Service Intensive beds they may request.
- Applicants may request **up to 15 Service Intensive beds per application.**
 - If more than 15 Service Intensive beds are needed within the same application, then at least 60% of the additional beds beyond 15 must be for a bed model(s) other than Service Intensive.
 - **Example:** an applicant applying for 50 total beds must allocate at least 21 of those beds to a housing model(s) that is not Service Intensive.
 - 50 total beds requested minus 15 Service Intensive beds equals 35 beds. 60% of 35 beds equals 21 non-Service Intensive beds, leaving no more than 14 beds out of 35 beds for additional Service Intensive beds.
 - Out of 50 total beds, no more than up to 29 Service Intensive beds are allowed and 21 beds must be dedicated to the other housing model(s) (e.g., Bridge, Clinical Treatment, Low Demand, Hospital to Housing).
- Refer to the GPD website for the [Maximum Service Intensive Bed Table](#).

FORMER CAPITAL GRANTEEES

- Applicants who received a GPD capital grant starting in fiscal year 2022:
 - Must successfully apply to this PDO NOFO for at least the beds for which they are receiving capital grant funding.
 - Must maintain an active PDO transitional housing grant in the same facility space that was improved by VA capital funding at least until the expiration of the minimum period during which VA could seek recovery ([38 CFR § 61.67](#)).
 - Failure to apply and be selected for a PDO grant may result in an immediate full or partial capital grant repayment.

FACILITY SPECIFICATIONS

- Applicants must own or lease the facility(s) site addresses proposed in the PDO application. Applicants leasing space must ensure the lease covers the entire 3-year period to ensure housing stability for participants.
- Facility configurations must account for the privacy, safety, security, and dignity needs of Veterans.
- Facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are preferred over those with congregate or open bay accommodations.
- The PDO grant does not support capital development work. Applicants should not propose sites that require capital work that will not be complete prior to the beginning of the award period, October 1, 2026.
- All facilities must meet the inspection standards outlined in [38 C.F.R. § 61.80\(a\)-\(b\)](#). This includes, but is not limited to, compliance with:
 - Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards and the **Americans with Disabilities Act** Accessibility Guidelines.
 - Current edition of the **Life Safety Code** of the National Fire Protection Association and all applicable State and local housing codes.

APPLICATION CONTENT

- Applications must be submitted via GPD's electronic grants management system
 - https://hmlsgrants-va.mod.udpaas.com/s_Login.jsp.
- The PDO application is broken into sections:
 - Organization Profile – UEI, EIN, Indirect Cost Rate, SAM registration
 - Overview – VAMC, VISN, CoCs
 - Application – beds or service center visits requested, site address(es)
 - Abstract
 - Detailed Application Design
 - Need
 - Outreach
 - Project Plan, including Model Specific questions
 - Ability
 - Coordination
 - Budget Narrative
 - Organization Leadership
 - External Attachments (e.g., SF-424)
 - Certifications

APPLICATION CONTENT

- All applicants should identify at **least three (3)** different organizational points of contact in eGMS.
 - Organization Leadership
 - Fiscal Management
 - Grant Operations
- The person that completes and submits the PDO application becomes the *owner*.
- [How-to Add or Update Grant Contacts](#)
- [How-to Register a New Organization in eGMS](#)

Per Diem Only

OVERVIEW APPLICATION EXTERNAL ATTACHMENTS **GRANT CONTACTS** CERTIFICATIONS

Instructions

This section is to add grant contacts to your application. Use Invitations below to invite them to be a grant contact for this application.

Grant contacts
Grant Contacts shows the contacts currently associated with this application.

How to invite a grant contact:
Please click the envelope icon below Invitations. Then in the pop up window, please select a contact and a role. Click the Add button. Then click on Save. When you're ready to invite, click Invite. Then close out of the pop up window by clicking the X at the top right of the window.

NOTE: Under the Grant Contacts tab below, add a minimum of one organizational contact for each of the following roles: Grant Operations, Organizational Leadership, SQUARES POC, and Fiscal Management. Per role, organizations may identify a maximum of three contacts.

Grant Contacts

Find Contact

+ Select Role -- Add Contact

| # | Full Name | Title | Organization Name | Email | Role | Status |
|---|-----------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Erin E | Testing | GPD TESTING, INC | grantperdiem1@gmail.com | Organization Leadership | Active |
| 2 | Heather M | GM Specialist | GPD TESTING, INC | grantperdiem2@gmail.com | Grant Owner | Active |

Invitations

| Prefix | First Name | Last Name | Email | Role | Status |
|--------|------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| C | | Kuhl | grantperdiem1@gmail.com | Organization Leadership | Accepted |

Save Draft Request Deletion

APPLICATION CONTENT

- **NEED (see [38 C.F.R. § 61.13\(e\)](#)) - 2 questions**
 - Discuss the need for the specific housing model(s) requested.
 - Demonstrate the need for the number of beds (or service center) requested.
 - Current grantees are encouraged to discuss occupancy rates under their current GPD award and how that experience has informed the current declared need for the number of beds by housing model.
 - Opportunity to provide data that supports your assertions and discuss involvement with the local coordinated entry process and by-name list.
 - How has past performance informed the level of need for the particular number of beds and models requested.
- **OUTREACH (see [38 C.F.R. § 61.13\(c\)](#)) - 3 questions**
 - Discuss the frequency and method of direct outreach your agency will do to engage unsheltered Veterans.
 - Discuss how your project fits within your CoC's plan to end homelessness.
 - How will low barrier principles be applied so Veterans have rapid access to housing and services.
 - Discuss how admission processes will facilitate same-day access to housing and services.

APPLICATION CONTENT

- **PROJECT PLAN (see [38 C.F.R. § 61.13\(b\)](#)) – 19 questions + model specific questions**
 - If applying for multiple bed models, provide appropriate distinguishing details regarding each model.
 - List all the supportive services and the minimum frequency with which they will be provided.
 - Describe the plan for:
 - Case management
 - Individual service plans
 - Provision of meals
 - Transportation
 - Supervision
 - How will you support income maximization (e.g., access to benefits, employment, job training)
 - Describe any applicable participant fees, agreements, policies and procedures, or other program requirements.
 - Answer all applicable model specific questions.
 - Applicants requesting funding for providing services to minor dependents must answer the Project Plan 13 question.

APPLICATION CONTENT

- **ABILITY (see [38 C.F.R. § 61.13\(d\)](#)) - 5 questions**
 - Demonstrate your organization's ability to effectively carry out the grant as described in the application.
 - Provide a clear staffing plan
 - Discuss how the quantity and quality of staff is sufficient to provide the services discussed in the project plan section of the application.
 - Discuss past performance (e.g., utilization, performance metric outcomes).
 - Current GPD grantees discuss whether they have received any written corrective action plans from their VA medical facility directors.
 - Applicants may include in the External Attachments section position descriptions for up to four key positions.
 - **Do not** include resumes.
 - Organizations that operate other types of programs, must make certain that the staff referenced in the staffing table are dedicated to the GPD beds identified in this grant.
 - The table provides the opportunity for applicants to commit fractions of a position (e.g., 0.25 FTE, 10 hours/week).
 - Salaries/compensation must be reasonable ([2 CFR § 200.430](#))

APPLICATION CONTENT

- **COORDINATION (see [38 C.F.R. § 61.13\(g\)](#)) - 3 questions**
 - Attach any relevant letters of coordination from your VA medical facility and/or other community partners (e.g., CoC).
 - Ensure letters are **signed, dated, and attached to eGMS** application.
 - Can help establish need for your project and substantiate community collaborations.
 - Demonstrate collaboration with local community efforts and with coordinated entry systems (e.g., documented involvement with case conferencing, by-name lists).
 - Demonstrate that you have discussed the details of your proposed project with the local VA and substantiate assertions regarding past performance.
 - **Request letters early** (give at least 30 days)
 - Describe how this project has been coordinated with VA and/or the local community.
 - Discuss coordination strategies that support transitions to permanent housing.
 - [Sample Coordination Letter](#)

Grant and Per Diem Program – VA Letters of Coordination

ATTACHMENT A: Sample VA Coordination Letter

[SUBMIT LETTERS ON VA MEDICAL FACILITY LETTERHEAD. SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE APPLICANT IN TIME FOR INCLUSION IN THE ONLINE APPLICATION BY THE DUE DATE AND TIME STATED IN THE NOFO. ANY MATERIALS ARRIVING SEPARATELY OR LATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS PART OF THE APPLICATION.]

Date:

Grant and Per Diem (GPD) National Program Office

RE: *[INSERT APPLICANT NAME]*

To Whom It May Concern:

The *[INSERT VA MEDICAL FACILITY NAME AND #]* in *[INSERT VASW #]* understands the above-noted entity is applying for a *[INSERT ONLY ONE GRANT TYPE: PDO, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING OR PDO, SERVICE CENTER OR TRANSITION IN PLACE]* grant which, if selected for funding, would begin October 1, 2023.

The applicant consulted with our medical facility regarding the staffing, services, and overall scope of the project proposed within their GPD application. Our understanding is that the applicant is proposing the following activities:

| Facility address(es) (if available) | Proposed model(s): Bridge Housing Clinical Treatment Hospital to Housing Low Demand Service Intensive Service Center Transition in Place | Proposed number of GPD beds (For Service Centers enter the number of hourly visits monthly) | Proposed number of beds for minor dependents of Veterans (if applicable) | Proposed number of beds, staffing and services will meet the needs of Veterans in the community (yes / no) |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

We have worked with the above-noted entity since *[INSERT DATE]*. This entity provides *[INSERT LIST OF SERVICES]* to Veterans in the above-noted area. VA has worked with this entity in the following capacity *[INSERT ROLES IN WHICH VA HAS WORKED WITH THE APPLICANT TO PLAN THE OPERATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT. INCLUDE THE DURATION OR FREQUENCY]*.

[INSERT ANY OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THE APPLICANT'S EXPERIENCE PROVIDING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING OR SERVICES UNDER PROGRAMS SUCH AS GPD. INCLUDE A DISCUSSION OF PAST PERFORMANCE IN RELATIONSHIP TO EXITS TO PERMANENT HOUSING, DECREASING NEGATIVE EXITS, EMPLOYMENT, AND BED UTILIZATION (AS APPLICABLE)].

[INSERT ANY OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE APPLICANT AND THEIR PARTICIPATION IN EFFORTS SUCH AS COMMUNITY-WIDE PLANNING, COORDINATED ENTRY, VA-SPECIFIC COORDINATION, EFFORTS TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS AND ANY OTHER COORDINATION ACTIVITIES.]

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me.

Sincerely,
[INSERT NAME, TITLE, PHONE, EMAIL]

APPLICATION CONTENT

- **BUDGET**

- Budget narrative asks applicants to describe how they calculated the costs of services and staffing proposed in the application. Explain how the project costs can be supported within the available [per diem rate limits](#).
- Organizations that will commit other sources of funding or in-kind resources should explain.
- Discuss if subrecipients or contractors will be involved in this project.
- Describe of your organization's financial stability, management systems, and your ability to meet the management standards described in [2 C.F.R. § 200](#) and [38 C.F.R. § 61](#).
- A per diem budget is **NOT REQUIRED** for the initial application submission. If conditionally selected for funding, applicants will submit a Per Diem Rate Request Worksheet.

APPLICATION CONTENT

- **EXTERNAL ATTACHMENTS**

- **Application for Federal Assistance:** SF-424 is required.
 - Must be signed by a person authorized to make legal commitments on behalf of the organization.
 - Signature on the SF-424 must be digital or hand-written. A blank signature field or a “signature” that is manually typed will not be accepted.
- **Indirect Costs:** Federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement or certification of de minimis indirect cost rate (required only if requesting indirect costs).
 - A copy of the [certification of de minimis indirect cost rate](#) is available on the GPD website.
- Letter(s) of coordination. (optional)
- Position descriptions for up to four key positions may be attached. (optional)
- Other attachments (optional)

MINOR DEPENDENTS

- January 2021, P.L. 116-315 was signed into law authorizing supplemental per diem for GPD grantees serving Veterans who have care of the minor dependents. Grantees approved to bill for minor dependents may bill an additional 50% of the approved per diem rate per each minor dependent.
- [Minor dependent](#) - someone who is unmarried, is not an emancipated minor, is identified by the Veteran as a family member when presenting for GPD services, and: (1) Is under age 23; or (2) Is age 23 or over and became permanently incapable of self-support before the age of 23.
- Applicants must request and be approved for, as part of the PDO application, per diem for minor dependents.
 - *Project Plan* question 13, provide a comprehensive narrative response to describe services.
 - *Application* question 13, state the number of beds for minor dependents that are expected to be in use (generally not expected to exceed 20 beds).
- Grantees approved for minor dependents must pass inspection by the local VA medical facility prior to billing per diem for minors.

POPULATIONS

- Throughout the application there are opportunities for applicants to discuss the various populations they are proposing to serve.
 - Men
 - Women
 - Minor dependents
 - Families
 - Registered sex-offenders
 - Justice involved Veterans
- Seek opportunities to address unmet needs in your community.
- Ensure application narrative sections align with the populations you have identified for each site address and what is being proposed makes sense within the context of the entire grant proposal.

APPLICATION REVIEW

- Threshold review requirements ([38 C.F.R. § 61.12\(i\)](#)).
 - Applications must be submitted on time, in the correct format, be complete, from an eligible entity and for eligible activities.
- Applications that pass threshold will be reviewed and scored by a panel of subject matter experts.
 - As this is a national competition, applicants **should not** assume that grant reviewers are familiar with their organization or local community homeless system.
 - VA may use historical program documents of past performance in determining scores.
- Applicants must receive at **least 750 points** (out of a possible 1000, per [38 C.F.R. § 61.13](#)) and must receive points under each category.
 - **Need** – maximum 150 points
 - **Outreach** – maximum 100 points
 - **Project Plan** – maximum 300 points
 - **Ability** – maximum 200 points
 - **Coordination** – maximum 200 points
 - **Completion confidence** – maximum 50 points
- Applications that receive the minimum score to be eligible for selection will be ranked and considered in score order until available funding is exhausted.

APPLICATION REVIEW

- In general, reviewers will consider the degree to which an applicant organization:
 - Commits to implementing a **low barrier** approach to providing services to Veterans
 - Whether they are able to provide **same-day access** from the point of identification or referral to the GPD project
 - Engages in the local **coordinated entry process** and the **by-name list**, as appropriate.
 - Demonstrates the declared need for the number of beds requested & housing model(s) proposed in the application.
 - Proposes **private or semi-private accommodations** for Veterans.
 - Facilities with private or semi-private accommodations for Veterans are preferred over those with congregate or open bay accommodations.
 - Proposes a comprehensive **scope of services** appropriate for the housing models requested.
 - Commits to providing **staff with demonstrated skills, experience and education** relevant to the scope of services and housing models.
 - Commits to a **sufficient quantity of staff** to support the number of beds requested.
 - Demonstrates coordination with the local VA medical facility and how this project fits within community-wide homeless system.
 - Demonstrates having currently available facility(s).
 - Has **past performance** that substantiates the grantees' ability and need for the proposed resources in the community.

OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Generally, VA will provide funding to eligible applicants in score order as described in this NOFO until eligible applications or funding is exhausted.
- **Funding is not guaranteed**
- Conditionally selected applicants may be asked to submit additional information.
 - Applicants will be notified of the deadline to submit such information.
 - If an applicant is unable to meet any conditions for the grant award within the specified time, VA may non-select the applicant and may use the funding for another applicant(s).
 - VA may negotiate arrangements with conditionally selected applicants and will incorporate any changes into the grant agreement.
 - Prior to awarding a grant agreement, VA reserves the right to make upward or downward adjustments to factors including but not limited to hours, FTE positions, services, project period dates, or dollars amounts, including adjustments that exceed the limits of the NOFO, as needed within the intent of this NOFO.
- Adjustments may be based on a variety of factors including the quantity and quality of applications, the needs of the community, geographic dispersion, as well as the availability of funding.

OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Conditionally selected applicants will submit a per diem rate budget and sign a grant agreement.
- Award decisions expected to be announced July/August/September 2026.
- All sites are required to pass inspection ([VA Form 10-10158](#)) and be able to start serving Veterans as of October 1, 2026, and no later than 180 days from the award start date ([38 C.F.R. § 61.30\(c\)](#)). Failure to establish the grant within 180 days will result in termination of the grant and may impact future award decisions ([38 C.F.R. § 61.12\(i\)](#)).
 - New sites must pass inspection by the local VA medical facility and receive a project activation notification **prior** to the placement of Veterans and the initiation of per diem billing.
 - Current grantees with sites that passed inspection within the last 12 months will have until December 31, 2026.
 - All GPD sites are inspected annually between October – December, with ad hoc reviews throughout the year.
- Grantees must comply with GPD regulations ([38 C.F.R. § 61](#)) and OMB Uniform Guidance and Cost Principles for Grants (e.g., [2 C.F.R. § 200](#), [2 C.F.R. Subpart E](#)).

OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- By law, the maximum per diem rate is up to 133% of the State Home domiciliary rate.
 - As of December 1, 2025, the maximum GPD per diem rate for PDO awards is \$82.73 for transitional housing and \$10.34 per hour for service centers.
 - Scope of services and staffing proposed within the application must be supportable within those funding limits or including other funding sources your agency may be committing to the project.
- Per diem is billed monthly, based on the number of bed days of care (or hourly service center visits) provided.
- Grantees must maintain a detailed daily census of all participants (including minors, if applicable).
 - Census must be submitted with monthly per diem billing as supporting documentation; also supports safety considerations.

OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Per diem rates are based on the cost of care to provide housing, services and staffing described within the application.
 - Per diem may support **up to 100% of the cost of care**, minus other sources of income (e.g., resident rent, external funding sources that support grant operations).
 - Costs charged to the grant must be **allowable, allocable, and reasonable**.
 - Indirect costs ([2 C.F.R. § 200.412-415](#)) are allowable if supported by a Federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) or if supported by a certification of de minimis indirect cost rate declaring a rate of up to 15% of modified total direct costs ([2 C.F.R. § 200.414](#)).
 - Otherwise, all requested costs must be direct costs.
 - **HMIS participation fees** and related staffing costs associated with inputting data and monthly reporting are allowable if not available through other means at no cost to the grant.

TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS

- **Do not wait until the last minute to submit your application.**
 - Deadline is firm as to date and hour.
 - **Submit early** to avoid the risk of unanticipated delays, computer service outages or other submission-related problems that might result in ineligibility.
- GPD commits to providing technical assistance to applicants prior to the application submission deadline.
 - Response times can vary.
 - Applicants should plan accordingly and allow **at least three business days** to receive responses.
- Ensure that your application is complete.
 - Materials arriving separately will not be included in the application package for consideration.
- Be sure to fully answer all the questions.
 - Many narrative questions have several parts.
- Typographical and grammatical errors inhibit understanding of the project.
- Read the NOFO carefully as it is the official document regarding this notice of funding.
- Read the GPD regulations carefully ([38 C.F.R. § 61](#)).
- **Write your application as if the person reading it knows nothing about your organization... *because they don't!***

TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS

- When answering questions provide specifics that relate to the model(s) you are applying for.
- Use data to establish need for your specific project.
- Start early by having planning discussions with your local community and VA medical center.
- Discuss your past performance. If there were challenges discuss what proactive steps your agency took to address these issues and the outcome of those efforts.
- How will your proposed project meet community need?
- What is the right mix of bed models and the number of beds?
- How is your organization tied to the local coordinated entry system in your area?
- Application narratives must align with GPD regulations.
 - For example, applicants may not state they will charge security deposits or application fees because this type of fee is not allowable, per [38 C.F.R. § 61.82](#).
- Review technical assistance materials on the [GPD website](#).

RESOURCES

- PDO NOFO on the GPD website: <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD.asp>
- eGMS website: https://hmlsgrants-va.mod.udpaas.com/s_Login.jsp
- eGMS How-to Guides
 - Register new organization: https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/providers/UDPaaS_How-ToRegisterNewOrg_in_eGMS.pdf
 - Add or update contacts: https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/providers/UDPaaS_TutorialAddContacts.pdf
- Maximum service intensive beds table: https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/providers/Max_SITH_Bed_Calculator.pdf
- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424 on Grants.gov):
 - <https://grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/sf-424-family> or
 - https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SF424_4_0-V4.0.pdf
- Sample coordination letter:
 - <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/VALetterofCoordinationsamplePDOTIPSNFY27NOFO.pdf>
- GPD regulations: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-38/chapter-I/part-61>
- GPD Provider Website: https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD_ProviderWebsite.asp

QUESTIONS

- Questions should be directed to the GPD team at GPDgrants@va.gov
- GPD Team
 - Chelsea Watson, Director
 - Nancy Hegel, Supervisory Financial Analyst
 - Erin Johnson, Program Analyst
 - Melissa Meierdierks, Clinical Program Specialist
 - Angela Smittie, Clinical Program Specialist
 - Jenny King, Grants Management Specialist
 - Coral Baker, Financial Management Specialist
 - Heather Monroe, Grants Management Specialist
 - Justin Dandois, Compliance Officer

THANK YOU

FINAL REMINDER: PDO applications due Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 4:00 pm Eastern Time

Thank you for your commitment to the Nation's Veterans