

stipends to be paid to participants during on-site work.

(6) Job placement assistance: A description of the applicant's strategies and procedures for (a) participant placement in meaningful employment, enrollment in post-secondary education programs, job development, starting business enterprises, or other opportunities leading to economic independence; and (b) follow-up assistance and support activities to program graduates.

(7) Program evaluation: A description of a comprehensive evaluation plan that is designed to measure the success of the program.

D. Program Resources: expressions of interest (for planning applications) or commitment of resources (for implementation applications) obtained from other Federal, State, local and private sources. (Maximum Points: 10) In assigning points for this criterion, HUD will consider the extent of interest or level of resources obtained for cash or in-kind contributions to cover the following kinds of areas:

(1) social services (i.e., counseling and training);

(2) use of existing vocational, adult, bilingual educational courses;

(3) use of housing stock and/or housing funds available through existing public or private programs;

(4) construction and/or rehabilitation loans, grants, or interest rate subsidies;

(5) donation of labor, resource personnel, supplies, materials, classroom and/or meeting space;

(6) architectural and engineering work;

(7) public improvements, tax abatements, or other commitments.

E. Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community: Up to 10 points will be assigned if the proposed Youthbuild program's participant recruitment and housing areas are, in whole or in part, in a Federally designated urban or rural Empowerment Zone, Enterprise Community, or Supplemental Empowerment Zone, as selected by HUD.

F. AmeriCorps Participation Bonus: Up to 5 points may be assigned to Youthbuild applicants who provide evidence of application and/or selection as an AmeriCorps program sponsor.

G. Implementation Applications Only: Housing Program Priority Points: 10 priority points will be assigned to all implementation applications that contain evidence that housing funds from other Federal, state, local or private sources are available to cover the costs, in full, for the following housing activities for the proposed Youthbuild program: acquisition, architectural and

engineering fees, construction, and rehabilitation. Implementation applications proposing to use Youthbuild grant funds, in whole or in part, for any one of the housing activities listed above will not be entitled to the ten priority points.

#### IV. Application Requirements

Applicants must complete and submit applications for Youthbuild grants in accordance with instructions contained in the FY 1995 Youthbuild application package. The application package will request information in sufficient detail for HUD to determine whether the proposed activities are feasible and meet all the requirements of applicable statutes and regulations. In some cases, different information is needed for planning applications than for implementation applications. The application package requires a description of the applicant's and participating parties' experiences in young adult and housing programs, a description of the proposed Youthbuild program, a description of other public and private resources to be used for the program, including other housing resources, a schedule for the program, budgets, identification of housing sites(s), and demonstration of site access. The application package also contains certifications that the applicant will comply with fair housing and civil rights requirements, program regulations, regulations in 24 CFR part 135 with regard to economic opportunities for low-income persons and business concerns, and other Federal requirements. Applicants must also certify that the proposed activities are consistent with the HUD-approved Consolidated Plan in accordance with 24 CFR part 91. Applicants should refer to the Youthbuild application package for further instructions.

#### V. Selection Process

In order to afford applicants every opportunity to submit a ratable application, while at the same time ensuring the fairness and integrity of the selection process, HUD is adopting the following application submission and selection procedures:

A. Initial Screening: During the period immediately following the application deadline, HUD will screen each application to determine eligibility. Applications will be rejected if they (1) are submitted by ineligible applicants, (2) do not use the current FY 95 application package, (3) propose a program for which significant activities are ineligible, (4) there are any outstanding findings of noncompliance with civil rights statutes, Executive

Orders, or regulations, as a result of formal administrative proceedings, or the Secretary has issued a charge against the applicant under the Fair Housing Act, unless the applicant is operating under a conciliation or compliance agreement designed to correct the areas of noncompliance, and (5) are submitted by applicants that have major unresolved audit or monitoring findings.

B. Rating and Ranking: Each eligible application will be rated based upon the criteria described in section III of this NOFA, with a maximum of 105 points assigned for planning applications and 115 points assigned for implementation applications. Using the scores assigned, the applications will be placed in rank order, with separate rankings for planning and implementation applications. Applications will be preliminarily selected for funding in accordance with their rank order. To promote national geographic diversity, HUD reserves the right to select lower-rated applications if necessary or to limit the amount or number of awards per jurisdiction or State.

If two or more applications have the same score and there are insufficient funds to fund all of them, the application(s) with the highest score for the Program Quality and Feasibility criterion shall be selected for funding. If a tie still remains, the application(s) with the highest score for the Capability criterion shall be selected. In the event of a procedural error that, when corrected, would result in selection of an otherwise eligible applicant during the funding round under this NOFA, HUD may select that application when sufficient funds become available.

C. Clarification of Application Information: In accordance with the provisions of 24 CFR part 4, subpart B, HUD may contact an applicant to seek clarification of an item in the application, or to request additional or missing information, but the clarification or the request for additional or missing information shall not relate to items that would improve the substantive quality of the application pertinent to the funding decision. For the Youthbuild program, these clarification items include, but are not limited to: (a) missing or unsigned program certifications, and (b) budget errors or inconsistencies. For implementation applications only, these clarification items also include: (c) failure to identify the address or equivalent property site identification for the housing project(s) to be used for the on-site training; (d) incomplete documentation to show that the applicant has obtained access to the