

State of Connecticut
Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)
CHAMP II Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA)
Questions and Answers
November 19, 2012

Q: Are there any per unit subsidy limits?

A: No, there are no stated per unit caps.

Q: In terms of leveraging, are local HOME/CDBG funds considered as DECD funding?

A: No, they are not considered DECD funding.

Q: Is leveraging only on affordable units?

A: No leveraging is not based on the affordable units. Leveraging is calculated on the percentage of the DECD investment as part of the TDC.

Q: What is the number of years to go back for projects completed on the applicant capacity form?

A: Six years.

Q: How would DECD funds from another program, such as SHRP be viewed?

A: They would be considered DECD funds.

Q: Will the projects chosen for funding be based solely on rating and ranking and the scoring or are there other issues that could affect the application?

A: Funding determinations will be based on rating and ranking results but remain subject to review and approval by the Commissioner.

Q: Was funding lowered for some awards on CHAMP I?

A: The amount of funding for projects selected for awards under CHAMP 1 reflects the financing gap that remains following confirmation of all other funding, final underwriting, and a final development budget. The amount of funding to be made available for projects selected for awards under CHAMP 2 is expected to be calculated in a similar manner.

Q: Are state historic tax credits considered DECD funds?

A: Though State Historic tax credits are DECD funds, they will be considered leveraged funds for the purpose of CHAMP 2 rating and ranking.

Q: Are Historic Tax Credits considered a firm commitment if you have Part II approval?

A: Yes.

Q: If applicant's submitting an application electronically through the BIZNET Portal, what has to be submitted in hard copy?

A: The project plans and specifications need to be submitted to DECD in hard copy. If an application is a DECD-CHFA jointly funded project, then the plans for both agencies can be submitted to DECD and DECD will forward them to CHFA.

Q: For projects applying to both DECD and CHFA, all of the applications can be submitted to DECD, correct?

A: Yes. Make sure to clearly label the original and copy that will be submitted to each agency. DECD will transport to CHFA all applications and plans being submitted for CHFA review.

Q: Will DECD be issuing deficiency letters related to the CHAMP 2 applications?

A: Yes. DECD will proceed through its standard application review with deficiency letters projected for dispatch on December 14, 2012.

Q: Can an application for the same project be submitted for both the 2012 CHFA 9% LIHTC round and the CHAMP 2 round?

A: No. The CHAMP 2 NOFA explicitly stated that applications for the same project cannot be submitted under both the 2012 CHFA 9% LIHTC and CHAMP 2 competitions.

Q: Will the CHAMP 2 submission deadline be extended because of recent weather events?

A: No.

Q: Can small projects apply under the CHAMP 2 NOFA?

A: Yes. There is no minimum funding amount required.

Q: Can existing projects which have already received DECD funding apply under the CHAMP 2 NOFA to address cost overruns?

A: No. Cost overruns should be addressed through the standard process with existing funders.

Q: Can homeownership projects apply under CHAMP 2?

A: No. CHAMP 2 is limited to rental development projects.

Q: If applying for gap funds to DECD, do we need to provide a market study, market assessment or wait list?

A: Applicants can provide one or more of these materials and/or other materials to document the need for the project. Please refer to the rating and ranking form for the relative weight assigned to this criterion.

Q: Will CHAMP funding be in the form of a loan or grant if an application is chosen for an award?

A: DECD can provide both loan or grant funding, or the combination thereof, based on the needs of the project.

Q: Can an applicant simply update an earlier version of an application, such as an application submitted for CHAMP 1, rather than submit a new application?

A: No. A new application must be submitted for all projects. However, if an applicant submitted an application for substantially the same project in response to a prior CHAMP NOFA then such applicant may elect not to re-submit any financial statements, organizational documents, capital needs assessments, environmental site assessments, and/or drawings, plans, and specifications that continue to be true, accurate and complete. Any such applicant must provide a certification that all such documents previously submitted to DECD or CHFA, if applicable, continue to be true, accurate and complete as of the date of its submission of its ConApp in response to this NOFA. All other portions of

the application, including, without limitation, the Consolidated Application Workbook 1 and Workbook 2, must be re-submitted.

Q: Can elderly projects apply under the CHAMP 2 NOFA?

A: Yes.