



NC Balance of State Continuum of Care

Coordinated Assessment Exchange

August 8, 2017

3:00 pm

Non-Discrimination and Accessibility

CA notice emphasizes non-discrimination and accessibility

- HUD released a notice (CPD 17-01) in January that clarified and expanded Coordinated Assessment requirements and provided additional guidance.
- HUD also released a checklist for CoCs to assess whether their systems comply with all requirements.
- CoCs are expected to comply with the notice by January 23, 2018



Non-discrimination in assessment and prioritization

- Membership in a protected class may not be used to prioritize households.
 - This includes a specific diagnosis or disability.
- Assessment tool and prioritization process must not discriminate based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, familial status, disability, type or amount of disability or disability related services or supports required.



Non-discrimination in assessment and prioritization

- Protected classes can be used in a very limited fashion for the purposes of determining eligibility.
 - For instance, HOPWA requires participants to be living with HIV / AIDS
- Therefore, determining eligibility and priority are separate processes.



Non-discrimination in assessment and prioritization

- Participants must be informed that they can file a non-discrimination complaint.



Accessibility

- CA may not screen people out of the CA process due to perceived barriers related to housing or services, including, but not limited to:
 - Income level
 - Substance use
 - DV history
 - Resistance to receiving services
 - The type or extent of disability-related services or supports that are needed
 - Housing or credit history
 - Criminal record



Accessibility

- CA systems must document steps taken to ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities, including:
 - Auxiliary aids and services for communication, such as Braille, audio, large type, assistive listening devices, and sign language interpreters
- Access points must be accessible to individuals with disabilities, including accessible physical locations for individuals who use wheelchairs, as well as people in the CoC who are least likely to access homeless assistance



Accessibility

- CA systems must take reasonable steps to ensure the coordinated entry process can be accessed by persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP).



Resources to ensure accessibility
