



Clark County
Homeless Crisis Response System
Severe Weather Response
Request for Application

Funding Guide
Criteria and Application Information

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Process Overview

DESCRIPTION

Clark County Community Services is seeking applications for projects that strengthen Severe Weather Response services for unhoused residents. Funding is intended to reduce harm during extreme weather events through coordinated planning, sheltering, outreach, and supply distribution- working as part of the Homeless Crisis Response System (HCRS).

Proposals must increase capacity for programs that provide shelter and/or promote the health and safety of households who are unsheltered during extreme weather events. All funded programs will be required to work together in an integrated and mutually supporting continuum of care. All programs must follow guidelines and processes determined by the Severe Weather Response Planning entity and Clark County.

All funded providers are expected to participate in Clark County's Severe Weather Task Force, provide services when Severe Weather is activated by the responsible entity, coordinate efforts as required with the responsible entity, and make reasonable efforts to track services and share information that supports systemwide coordination.

Funding awarded through this RFA is intended to increase the capacity of Clark County's existing and planned Severe Weather Response. Funds may not be used to replace, supplant, or shift costs already planned, budgeted, or funded through other sources.

The following program types and approximate funding available per year for each are listed below.

Funding Categories:	FY26	FY27
Severe Weather Planning	\$149,028	\$154,972
Seasonal Winter Shelter Staffing Support	\$97,102	\$102,698
Severe Cold Weather Response	\$71,844	\$76,156
Severe Hot Weather Response	\$47,787	\$50,713
Severe Weather Supply Distribution	\$24,177	\$25,523

*An increase is intentionally built in for FY27 to account for inflation and staff wage increases/incentives.

1. Severe Weather Planning (\$304,000)

Year 1	Year 2
\$149,028	\$154,972

Supports overall system coordination and readiness for severe weather response. Funded activities should focus on strengthening planning efforts across the Homeless Crisis Response System and ensuring timely, organized responses during activation periods.

Eligible activities include:

- Developing and maintaining local Severe Weather Protocols and activation thresholds
- Coordinating with jurisdictions, providers, and emergency managers
- Convening and staffing the Severe Weather Taskforce
- Facilitating seasonal after-action reviews and planning
- Managing timely and accessible public communication and activation alerts

2. Seasonal Winter Sheltering – Staffing Support (\$199,800)

Year 1	Year 2
\$97,102	\$102,698

Supports staffing costs associated with temporary or seasonal drop-in shelter operations, including Winter Hospitality Overflow (WHO), during the cold weather season (typically November through March). Funding is intended to help shelters maintain safe and adequate staffing levels during periods of increased need.

Eligible activities include:

- Wages for overnight staff, site support, or case management roles
- Training and onboarding for seasonal shelter staff
- Additional staffing coverage during weather activations or expanded hours

** Capital improvements and facility maintenance are not eligible expenses

3. Severe Cold Weather Response (\$148,000)

Year 1	Year 2
\$71,844	\$76,156

This category funds direct response activities activated by the HCRS responsible entity during periods of extreme cold, including shelter expansion, severe cold weather response focused outreach, transportation, and emergency services. All activities must align with the County's cold weather activation criteria and be coordinated with the HCRS Coordinating Entity.

Eligible activities include:

- Operating emergency pop-up shelters or warming spaces
- Deploying outreach teams during activations
- Providing transportation to shelter or warming sites
- Distributing supplies ties to cold weather response

4. **Severe Hot Weather Response** (\$98,500)

Year 1	Year 2
\$47,787	\$50,713

Supports life-safety interventions during periods of extreme heat. Activities should reduce health risks and provide critical services to people experiencing homelessness when severe hot weather conditions are called by the HCRS responsible entity.

Eligible activities include:

- Operating cooling centers or hydration access points
- Providing water, electrolytes, sunscreen, and shade
- Outreach focused on wellness checks and heat-related risk reduction
- Transportation to cooling sites or urgent care

** All activities must align with formal heat advisories or activation criteria.

5. **Severe Weather Supplies** (\$49,700)

Year 1	Year 2
\$24,177	\$25,523

Provides funding for the centralized purchase and distribution of emergency supplies to be used during active severe weather events called by the HCRS responsible entity. Distribution should be coordinated with outreach providers, shelters, and other response teams to ensure a standardized approach and avoid duplication.

Eligible activities include:

- Procuring thermal gear, blankets, tarps, socks gloves, and hand warmers
- Providing summer supplies such as water, sunscreen, and electrolyte packets
- Costs associated with organized supply storage and distribution logistics

RFA PROCESS

Clark County Community Services issues this guidance to accompany the Severe Weather Response Request of Applications (RFA). The purpose of this guide is to provide applicants with clarity on allowable activities, program intent, and coordination expectations for each category of Severe Weather Response funding. All funded activities must support unsheltered or unhoused individuals at heightened risk during periods of extreme weather, as part of the Homeless Crisis Response System (HCRS).

There are multiple steps for the complete RFA process. Applicants are responsible for completing each step by the designated due date.

Notice of Funding Availability

When funding becomes available, Clark County announces the opportunity to apply through a News Release to all local media and posts information to the county's social media platforms. Staff also notifies all interested stakeholders by email. To be added to the stakeholders list, contact Kayla Williams: kayla-renee.williams@clark.wa.gov.

Application Access

Applications are completed through Bonfire, an online grant management system. Applicants can start the application process at: <https://clarkcountywa.bonfirehub.com/portal/?tab=openOpportunities>.

Additional program information can be found on our website at <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/applications>.

Pre-application

There is no pre-application for the Severe Weather Response RFA.

Full Application

The remaining sections comprise the full application and include requests for detailed project information, timeline for project accomplishments and proposed budget. The full application is due by Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 11:30PM PST in bonfire.

Staff Review and Technical Corrections

Staff may request technical corrections before applications are released to the scoring committee. Applicants will receive notification via email if corrections are needed.

Application Presentation

Agencies will submit a brief proposal presentation (slide deck) as part of their application. Limit the number of slides to 5-7 per program type. Each proposal/service activity should have its own slide deck. Presentations should be program specific and may include:

- Brief Agency identification
 - Mission, Values, HCRS experience
- Program intent and impact to the community
 - Program goals
 - Proven success (data from HMIS or internal tracking systems)
 - Case study examples (participant feedback)
- Program history
 - Number of people served annually
 - Volunteer hours supporting the program
 - Historical spending/dedicated funds
- Proposed increase to capacity/supports offered
 - Number of people to be served annually if funding is awarded
 - How expanding this program's capacity will impact the HCRS

Scoring and Awards

The scoring committee is responsible for reviewing and scoring all applications and recommending funding awards. Each individual program application can earn up to 12 total points (4 total points for core agency components and 8 total points for each individual severe weather response activity). Awards will be allocated based on the highest scores for each program within each individual service activity. Each question in the full application indicates how many points can be awarded based on the quality of the response. Points will be allocated by a scoring committee.

Funding recommendations are made by the scoring committee and will be presented to Clark County Council in October 2025. Staff will send an email notification to all applicants with the results of the funding recommendations and next steps.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All applicants must demonstrate the ability to coordinate with Clark County's Homeless Crisis Response System and adhere to relevant protocols during severe weather activations. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, local jurisdictions, tribal governments, and public agencies with experience either:

- Serving people experiencing homelessness or
- Have a clear role in communitywide severe weather response efforts

Applicants must also meet the following criteria:

- Applicants may be required to provide proof of insurance for the following:
 - Commercial general liability (CGL) insurance, automobile liability insurance, fidelity insurance, sexual molestation liability, cyber liability, workers' compensation, and professional liability.
 - Insurance requirements may change during contract negotiations.
- Comply with all applicable local, state, and federal funding requirements

CONTRACT PERFORMANCE

Services provided will take place within Clark County and will serve homeless individuals and/or families in Clark County.

Providers offering direct services must enter data into HMIS, where possible and appropriate. If HMIS participation is not feasible (urgency, mobile response, or anonymous engagement), providers may use simplified tracking tools approved in advance by the County.

To the best of their ability, providers should track and report on basic service activities, such as:

- Number of individuals engaged or served
- Services provided (supplies distributed, shelter provided, outreach contacts)
- General location and timing of activities
- Any key observations or concerns that may inform future planning

Providers will submit brief summaries or reports on a quarterly basis, or as otherwise agreed upon. Reporting templates will be provided and are focused on learning and system improvement.

All contracts will operate on a cost reimbursement basis.

- Invoices will be submitted monthly, as services are administered and expenses incurred, with the appropriate documentation included.

RFA TIMELINE

The funding cycle for Severe Weather Response is as follows:

August 11, 2025	Applications open
August 14, 2025	Pre-submittal workshop 9am-10am Details and link here: https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/applications
September 8, 2025	Technical Assistance drop-in 3pm-4pm
September 15, 2025	Technical Assistance drop-in 12pm-1pm
September 15, 2025	The deadline for submitting questions is 5pm on September 15, 2025.
September 17, 2025	Full applications are due via Bonfire no later than 11:30 PM.
September 18, 2025	Staff review, request for technical corrections
September 22, 2025	Applications provided to Scoring Committee
October 3, 2025	Project scores due and awards identified
October 2025	Contract development
October 21, 2025	Clark County Council approval
November 1, 2025	Contracts begin

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND QUESTIONS

Clark County staff highly encourage potential applicants attend the Pre-submittal Meeting on [Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 9:00am](#). This meeting will provide an overview of the application process and requirements and is an opportunity to discuss potential applications directly with staff. The workshop will be held online. Agencies are required to either attend the pre-submittal meeting or review the recorded session prior to completing application materials. By signing this guidance document agencies are confirming they have received and reviewed all necessary application materials provided by Clark County.

The workshop recording and presentation will be made available on our website at <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/applications>.

Clark County staff will be available during two virtual technical assistance drop-in sessions. Applicants can join here:

- [Monday, September 8, 2025, from 3:00pm-4:00pm PST.](#)
- [Monday, September 15, 2025, from 12:00pm-1:00pm PST.](#)

Questions regarding this Request for Application must be directed in writing, via email or bonfire, to the contact person. The deadline for submitting such questions is **September 15, 2025**. Answers will be issued to all applicants no later than September 16, 2025.

OTHER PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS

Anti-Lobbying Certification

All bidders must complete and submit an Anti-Lobbying Certification. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure. *A template is available in Bonfire to download, sign and upload.*

Conflict of Interest

“Organizational conflict of interest” means that, because of other activities or relationships with other persons or firms, the Proposer (including its principal participants, directors, proposed consultants or subcontractors) would be unable or potentially unable to render impartial, technically sound assistance or advice to Clark County; or the Proposer’s objectivity in performing the work would or might be otherwise impaired.

The Proposer certifies to the best of its knowledge and believes that neither it nor any of its principal participants and agents has any relationship with any firms or individuals that are, or appear to be, an organizational conflict of interest.

A template is available in Bonfire to download, sign and upload.

Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters

Applicants shall certify to the best of their knowledge and belief that neither it nor any of its principals:

1. Are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from submitting bids or proposals by any federal, state or local entity, department or agency.
2. Have within a five-year period preceding the date of this certification been convicted of fraud or any other criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) contract, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.
3. Are presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally charged with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph 2 of this certification.
4. Have, within a five-year period preceding the date of this certification, had a judgment entered against the contractor or its principals arising out of the performance of a public or private contract.
5. Have any litigation pending in any state or federal court in which there is a claim against contractor or any of its principals arising out of the performance of a public or private contract.
6. Have within a five-year period preceding the date of this certification had one or more public contracts (federal, state, or local) terminated for any reason related to contract performance.
7. Have paid all taxes the bidder or proposer owes to a public body, as defined in ORS 174.109, and otherwise complied with the tax laws of this state or a political subdivision of this state including but not limited to ORS 305.620, 310.630 to 310.706, 320.005 to 320.150, 403.200 to 403.250 and ORS chapters 118, 314, 316, 317, 318, 321 and 323.

A template is available in Bonfire to download, sign and upload.

E-Verify

To be considered responsive to any formal Clark County RFA, all applicants shall include with their response a recent copy of their E-Verify MOU or proof of pending enrollment. The awarded contractor shall be responsible for providing Clark County with the same E-Verify enrollment documentation for each subcontractor (\$25,000 or more) within thirty days after the sub-contractor starts work. Contractors and subcontractors shall provide a report showing the status of new employees hired after the date of the MOU. The status report shall be directed to the county department project manager at the end of the contract, or

annually, whichever comes first. E-Verify information and enrollment is available at the Department of Homeland Security web page: <https://www.e-verify.gov/>.

Fair Housing/Non-discrimination

Fair Housing is the right of all people to be free from discrimination in the rental, sale or financing of housing. Equal access to rental housing and homeownership opportunities, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status (the presence of children under 18) or disability, is the cornerstone of federal Fair Housing Policy. Local cities and counties that receive certain federal housing or community development funds have a role in affirming Fair Housing.

Projects awarded federal funds are required to ensure that all persons are served equitably and that a person is not denied services because of their race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or mental or physical ability. The State of Washington carries additional protections for people experiencing discrimination based on a person's marital status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability and the use of a trained dog guide or service animal, and honorably discharged veteran or military status. Applicants must be prepared to establish, amend, or maintain program admissions, occupancy, and operating policies and procedures (including policies and procedures to protect individuals' privacy and security), so that equal access is provided to individuals based on any of the above listed protected classes.

Insurance

Agencies that are awarded funds shall obtain insurance coverage that meets Clark County standards. Each contract will be reviewed by the Risk Assessment to identify the full insurance requirement needs. At minimum, agencies will need:

- Commercial General Liability. Contractor shall maintain \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate limits in annually renewing occurrence-based Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance coverage. A "claims-made" policy is not acceptable. In no event shall the deductible exceed \$10,000. Contractor agrees that its CGL policy is primary and non-contributory and waives its right of subrogation.
- Automobile Liability. If vehicles are to be used in the performance of work under this Contract, Contractor shall provide the County with proof of \$1,000,000 combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage in annually renewing occurrence-based Automobile Liability insurance coverage for all owned and non-owned vehicles. If vehicles are not used, the Contractor shall provide the County with a written declaration on company letterhead stating that no vehicles will be used in the performance of the Contract. The contractor agrees that its Automobile Liability policy is primary and non-contributory and waives its right of subrogation.
- Workers' Compensation. Contractor shall maintain Workers' Compensation insurance coverage in compliance with the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Title 51 or provide evidence that State law does not require such coverage.
- Professional Liability. Contractors shall maintain Professional Liability insurance coverage with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 for any (1) incident. At all times, Contractor's policy, limits, and coverage will be primary and non-contributory to any coverage maintained by Clark County.
- Sexual Molestation. Contractor shall maintain Sexual Molestation Liability insurance coverage with a minimum limit of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/aggregate. At all times, Contractor's policy, limits, and coverage will be primary and non-contributory to any coverage maintained by Clark County.

Additional Insurance Requirements:

- Clark County, its officers, employees, and agents, shall be named on the Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability policies of Contractor and any subcontractors as an Additional Insured with no restrictions or limitations concerning products and completed operations. Coverage shall be primary and noncontributory to any coverage maintained by Clark County. The contractor shall provide Clark County with verification of insurance and endorsements required by this Contract. Clark County reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time.

- All insurance shall be obtained from an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Washington. Insurance certificates shall list Clark County as a Certificate Holder as follows: Clark County Washington Community Services, Attn: Contracts Unit, PO Box 5000, Vancouver, WA 98666-5000.

GRIEVANCE PROCESS

If an applicant has a grievance about the outcome of their application through this request for application, they are encouraged to discuss their concerns with Clark County Community Services Program Manager Michael Torres at Michael.torres@clark.wa.gov. If this discussion does not result in a satisfactory outcome, the applicant may request the grievance be considered by Clark County Community Services Director, Vanessa Gaston who has final decision in all grievances.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Kayla-Renee.Williams@clark.wa.gov – 564.397.7865

Micheal.Torres@clark.wa.gov – 564.397.7801

Resources

	Document	What is it?	Where can I find it?
All Projects	State Homeless Housing Strategic Plan	The Department of Commerce is responsible for a State Strategic Plan and Annual Report to the Legislature on Washington’s efforts to address homelessness. The plan is a five-year roadmap identifying state and county activities and goals, while the report highlights accomplishments and course adjustments. Plan and report requirements are in RCW 43.185c.	https://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/homelessness/state-strategic-plan-annual-report-and-audits/
	Clark County Homeless Action Plan	State law requires communities that receive state homelessness funds to adopt a homeless action plan to prioritize, guide, and evaluate their community’s efforts to prevent and end homelessness. The most recent plan was adopted in 2018. The County is currently in the process of developing a new Local Homeless Housing Plan which will be executed by the end of 2025. Programs are responsible for reviewing and realigning with the new guidance as necessary to support the County’s strategy for responding to homelessness.	https://www.councilforthehomeless.org/homeless-action-plan/

Bonfire Application Overview

Bonfire is an online grant management system that will be used for application submission, application scoring, and grant awarding.

The link to access Clark County's Bonfire site is:

<https://clarkcountywa.bonfirehub.com/portal/?tab=openOpportunities>

Application instructions

1. Login to the Bonfire site
 - You do not need to sign up for Bonfire to view the opportunity, but you cannot view, download, or submit any documents until you register/log in
2. Click on the open public opportunity titled **2025 HCRS Severe Weather Response**.
3. Complete and submit the full application through Bonfire **no later than September 17, 2025**.
 - Download the Questionnaire templates for each program type you will be applying for. This template will be in Excel format. Follow directions in "Instructions" tab to complete questionnaire and upload to Bonfire.
 - Download templates for other required forms through Bonfire. See checklist below for list of required forms. Complete, sign, and submit forms through Bonfire.

To ask an RFA related question, use the Opportunity Q&A. All communications will go through Bonfire. Notifications will be published under Public Notices.

All resources are available in Bonfire and on the [Clark County website](#).



For Bonfire technical support, click the help button at the bottom right of the screen.

Applicants must submit pre-applications and respond to any inquiries from Clark County staff before submitting a full application in Bonfire. Due to the RFA settings in Bonfire, applicants will not be able to submit their pre-applications through the Bonfire site. Pre-applications are required. Failure to submit completed pre-applications may void any further application submissions for the 2025 HCRS RFA, in Bonfire. Please see the directions below regarding how to submit your pre-applications:

Application Overview

The following section provides an application checklist and lists each question by Questionnaire in Bonfire. The guidance provides clarification and insight for each question; how many points are available for each question and scoring guidance provided to the scoring committee.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Submit via Bonfire no later than **11:30 PM** on **September 17, 2025**.

Required documents for all entities:

- ☐ Program presentation (slide deck) for each individual program proposal (5 maximum)
- ☐ Completed Questionnaire
 - Includes Tab 1 'Core' to be completed one time per agency
 - Includes category specific tab for each program type (only complete tabs 2-6 as appropriate, leave tabs blank if not applying for that specific funding category identified)
- ☐ Proposed Budget Table for each program type (5 maximum)
- ☐ Anti-Lobbying certification
- ☐ Conflict of Interest and Debarment Certification Form
- ☐ E-Verify MOU (E-Verify information and enrollment is available at the Department of Homeland Security web page: <https://www.e-verify.gov/>)
- ☐ Signed HCRS Severe Weather Response RFA Guidance Form
- ☐ Letter(s) of collaboration (relevant to the proposed program(s))
- ☐ Proof of insurance

Additional documents required for Nonprofits:

- ☐ Copy of IRS 501(c)(3), Certification of Good Standing with Washington Secretary, or State Corp Papers.

Additional documents required for public agencies:

- ☐ Documentation confirming governmental status, such as a signed resolution or letter from executive or legal counsel.

Additional documents required for Tribal Governments:

- ☐ Letter of intent or designation, resolution or letter of authorization, or a tribal tax ID or DUNS/UEI number.

Optional documents

- ☐ In-kind Match Valuation form – *required* if using in-kind funding sources (template available in Bonfire)
- ☐ Additional Documentation

APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE – 12 POINTS AVAILABLE FOR EACH PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Applicants will complete one consolidated application that includes a **Shared Core** section and one or more **program specific** tabs, depending on which funding types they are applying for. The shared Core score received will be added to each individual program proposal score, to identify a total program proposal score out of 12.

INSTRUCTIONS TAB

Tips for filing out the bonfire provided excel template

SUMMARY TAB

Displays overall progress on the questionnaire, this will not reach 100% unless agency is applying to all 5 funding categories.

TAB 1: Shared Core

This section gathers agency-level information

Points Available: 4

TAB 2: Severe Weather Planning

Proposed leadership or coordination roles in systemwide planning efforts for cold and hot weather events

Points Available: 8

TAB 3: Winter Shelter Staffing Support

Increase or sustain staff capacity to support shelter operations during cold weather

Points Available: 8

TAB 4: Cold Weather Response

Expand emergency response capacity during cold weather activations

Points Available: 8

TAB 5: Hot Weather Response

Expand hydration, outreach or cooling center access during heat events

Points Available: 8

TAB 6: Severe Weather Supply Distribution

Provide survival supplies during severe weather events in coordination with HCRS partners

Points Available: 8

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE 1.1.1-1.2.3

1.1.1 – 1.1.5 (Information only)

These questions are not scored but are required to help Clark County assess the eligibility of the application. Responses will be used to confirm organization and program details, understand the applicant's designation and fiscal capacity, and ensure proposals are appropriate to meet the intent of this RFA.

1.2.1 (2 points possible)

Describe your agency's experience providing direct services to people experiencing homelessness. Include whether case management or housing-focused support is provided directly by your agency or through formal partnerships.

2 points: Applicant provides direct services including case management, housing focused navigation, or outreach to people experiencing homelessness as part of their core operations.

1 point: Applicant offers shelter or drop-in services but does not provide case management directly. However, they have formal partnerships with HCRS agencies who do provide these supports.

0 points: Applicants does not provide direct services or only offers general community support not specifically focused on homelessness.

1.2.2 (1 point possible)

Does your agency currently operate a program that is activated during severe weather response? If yes, briefly describe your program's role during activation periods.

1 point: Yes, applicant currently operates an existing severe weather response program.

0 points: No, applicant does not currently operate an existing severe weather response program.

1.2.3 (1 point possible)

Describe how your agency coordinates with other service providers, local jurisdictions, or emergency response partners during severe weather events.

1 point: Applicant currently participates in coordinated response or clearly outlines a plan to do so.

0 points: No participation in coordination efforts and no clear plan to engage going forward.

SEVERE WEATHER PLANNING APPLICANTS ONLY 2.1.1-2.6.1

2.1.1-2.1.3 & 2.2.1 (Information only)

These questions are not scored but are required to help Clark County assess program details and funding requests.

2.2.2 (2 points possible)

Describe the planning role your agency will take on through this funding. If you are already serving in a planning capacity, explain how this funding will help you sustain or expand that role. (500 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a new or expanded planning role or is a current planning entity showing a concrete need to sustain or scale their leadership

1 point: Some planning responsibilities described, but not clearly tied to expansion or system function

0 points: No planning role described, or role is minimal/unclear

2.3.1 (2 points possible)

How will your planning activities funded through this proposal enhance or strengthen the community's overall severe weather response system? Focus on how your work will support other jurisdictions, providers, or cross-agency coordination. (750 character max)

2 points: Applicant described clear systemwide value, such as filling coordination gaps, improving jurisdictional response, increasing shared readiness, or supporting multi-agency planning

1 point: Some value describes, but limited to a narrow scope or not clearly linked to broader response efforts

0 points: No system contribution described or unclear benefit beyond the applying entity

2.4.1 (2 points possible)

How will your agency's proposed work improve coordination, communication, or activations readiness for the entire HCRS during severe weather activation? (750 max characters)

2 points: Strong role described in convening, protocol-building, communication systems, etc.

1 point: Some support or coordination, limited reach.

0 points: Individualized or siloed effort, no clear systemwide structure or impact.

2.5.1 (1 point possible)

Is your agency prepared to begin this work by November 1, 2025? Explain (500 characters max).

1 point: Yes, ready to go

0 points: No or additional preparations needed

2.6.1 (2 points possible)

How does this planning effort align with or support Clark County's Local Homeless Housing Plan? (500 character max)

1 point: Clear demonstration on impact to system-level planning, protocols, or coordination.

0 points: Vague, unclear, not specific to Homeless Response.

WINTER SHELTER STAFFING SUPPORT APPLICANTS ONLY 3.1.1-3.6.1

3.1.1-3.1.3 & 3.2.1 (Information only)

These questions are not scored but are required to help Clark County assess program details and funding requests.

3.2.2 (2 points possible)

What specific increases are you proposing through this funding? (Examples: adding overnight staff, extending hours from 8pm-6am to 6pm to 8am, increasing beds from 20 to 30) (250 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a clear and measurable increase to program capacity and intended community outcomes (considering information provided in 3.2.1)

1 point: Applicant proposes a continuation of existing services at maintenance level (maintains impact identified in 3.2.1)

0 points: New program

3.3.1 (2 points possible)

How will this funding expand your winter shelter's capacity, and how will that expansion strengthen the community's response to severe weather? (750 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a capacity increase and explains how it strengthens the HCRS response (integration with CE or outreach, increases geographic coverage, or addresses unmet system need)

1 point: Expansion described, but limited or unclear connection to HCRS coordination

0 points: No capacity increase or not in alignment with the HCRS

3.4.1 (1 point possible)

How does this shelter staffing plan support or coordinate with other providers in the HCRS? (E.g., referrals from outreach, coordinated entry connection, shared protocols) (500 character max)

1 point: Clear coordination with the HCRS, established relationships and connection pathways

0 points: Vague, unclear, not HCRS specific.

3.5.1 (1 point possible)

Is your agency prepared to begin this work by November 1, 2025? Explain (500 characters max).

1 point: Yes, ready to go

0 points: No or additional preparations needed

3.6.1 (2 points possible)

How will this funding improve access to shelter or support for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness during the cold season? (750 max characters)

2 points: Clear commitment to improving access, coverage, and safety for individuals experiencing homelessness in Clark County

1 point: Some benefits described, but limited in scope

0 points: Minimal or no improvements noted for individuals accessing support

COLD WEATHER RESPONSE APPLICANTS ONLY 4.1.1-4.6.1

4.1.1-4.1.3 & 4.2.1 (Information only)

These questions are not scored but are required to help Clark County assess program details and funding requests.

4.2.2 (2 points possible)

What specific increase are you proposing through this funding? (Examples: add 10 emergency beds, launch second outreach team, expand transport route coverage) (250 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a clear and measurable increase to program capacity and intended community outcomes (considering information provided in 4.2.1)

1 point: Applicant proposes a continuation of existing services at maintenance level (maintains impact identified in 4.2.1)

0 points: New program

4.3.1 (2 points possible)

How will this funding expand your cold weather response capacity, and how will that expansion support the broader activation and coordination efforts? (750 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a capacity increase and explains how it strengthens the HCRS response (integration with CE or outreach, increases geographic coverage, or addresses unmet system need)

1 point: Expansion described, but limited or unclear connection to HCRS coordination

0 points: No capacity increase or not in alignment with the HCRS

4.4.1 (1 point possible)

How will this program coordinate with outreach teams, shelters, or activation partners during cold weather events? (500 character max)

1 point: Clear coordination with the HCRS, established relationships and connection pathways

0 points: Vague, unclear, not HCRS specific.

4.5.1 (1 point possible)

Is your agency prepared to begin this work by November 1, 2025? Explain (500 characters max).

1 point: Yes, ready to go

0 points: No or additional preparations needed

4.6.1 (2 points possible)

How will this program fill gaps or improve access for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness during cold weather events? (750 max characters)

2 points: Clear commitment to improving access or meeting community needs within the HCRS

1 point: Some impact shown, but lacks detail or scale

0 points: Minimal impact or not connected to homeless population needs

HOT WEATHER RESPONSE APPLICANTS ONLY 5.1.1-5.6.1

5.1.1-5.1.3 & 5.2.1 (Information only)

These questions are not scored but are required to help Clark County assess program details and funding requests.

5.2.2 (2 points possible)

What specific increase are you proposing through this funding? (Examples: add one cooling site, extend hours from 12-5pm to 10am-6pm, double the amount of hydration kits distributed) (250 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a clear and measurable increase to program capacity and intended community outcomes (considering information provided in 5.2.1)

1 point: Applicant proposes a continuation of existing services at maintenance level (maintains impact identified in 5.2.1)

0 points: New program

5.3.1 (2 points possible)

How will this funding expand your hot weather response capacity, and how will that expansion support the broader activation and coordination efforts? (750 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a capacity increase and explains how it strengthens the HCRS response (integration with CE or outreach, increases geographic coverage, or addresses unmet system need)

1 point: Expansion described, but limited or unclear connection to HCRS coordination

0 points: No capacity increase or not in alignment with the HCRS

5.4.1 (1 point possible)

How will you coordinate with outreach teams, hydration sites, or public alert systems during heat events? (500 character max)

1 point: Clear coordination with the HCRS, established relationships and connection pathways

0 points: Vague, unclear, not HCRS specific.

5.5.1 (1 point possible)

Are you prepared to activate this program during the first heat event of Summer 2026? Explain (500 characters max).

1 point: Yes, ready to go

0 points: No or additional preparations needed

5.6.1 (2 points possible)

How will this program reduce health risks and improve access to services for people experiencing homelessness during heat events? (750 max characters)

2 points: Clear commitment to improving safety and access for homeless individuals in Clark County

1 point: Some impact shown, but lacks detail or scale

0 points: No risk reduction strategy described

SEVERE WEATHER SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION APPLICANTS ONLY 6.1.1-6.6.1

6.1.1-6.1.3 & 6.2.1 (Information only)

These questions are not scored but are required to help Clark County assess program details and funding requests.

6.2.2 (2 points possible)

What specific increase are you proposing through this funding? (Examples: Reach 100 more people per activation, add staff to manage and assign inventory, expand into rural zones) (250 characters max)

2 points: Applicant describes a clear and measurable increase to program capacity and intended community outcomes (considering information provided in 6.2.1)

1 point: Applicant proposes a continuation of existing services at maintenance level (maintains impact identified in 6.2.1)

0 points: New program

6.3.1 (2 points possible)

How will this funding improve your ability to distribute emergency supplies during severe weather activations? (750 character max)

2 points: Applicant has a clear and strategic supply plan and increased coverage, including a coordinated effort to response strategies

1 point: Plan to increase distribution and coverage, does not detail coordinated effort in response

0 points: No improvement to supply distribution and plan is unclear or vague

6.4.1 (1 point possible)

How will you coordinate with outreach providers or shelters to avoid duplication during supply distribution? (500 character max)

1 point: Clear coordination with the HCRS and identifies how duplication will be avoided across county-wide response efforts

0 points: Does not identify how the program aims to prevent duplication of services

6.5.1 (1 point possible)

Do you have staff, storage, and systems in place to activate supply distribution quickly? Explain (500 characters max).

1 point: Yes, ready to go

0 points: No or additional preparations needed

6.6.1 (2 points possible)

How will you ensure supplies reach people most at risk of exposure? (E.g., remote encampments, medically vulnerable individuals) (750 max characters)

2 points: Strong strategy for prioritization, with defined approach to emergency response efforts that expand county-wide

1 point: Some targeting strategies defined, approach is limited geographically

SUBMISSION

Before submitting your application in Bonfire, you must certify the following:

- I have read and understand the HCRS Severe Weather Response RFA Guidance.
 - Guidelines are linked in Bonfire and available for view on our website:
<https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/applications>
- The information contained in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that final funding awards are based upon funding availability and the approval of the Clark County Council.

Once certifications have been made, sign and submit this form.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

NEXT STEPS

Staff will contact you if there are any follow-up questions regarding your application.