

FY2026 Staff Quarters Project Evaluation Framework

The FY2026 Staff Quarters Program will evaluate complete and eligible proposals using the following five weighted criteria, totaling 100 points. This framework intentionally balances demonstrated housing need, geographic challenges, cost effectiveness, and forward-looking design.

Final Scoring Criteria

Criterion	Points
Housing Need & Market Constraints	45
Remoteness	10
Project Cost & Cost Effectiveness	25
Sustainability & Energy Efficiency	10
Innovation	10
Total	100

Criteria Descriptions

1. Housing Need & Market Constraints (45 points)

Evaluates the extent to which housing shortages affect staffing, recruitment, retention, and continuity of operations, as well as the availability of realistic housing alternatives.

Reviewers will consider:

- Severity of staffing impacts attributable to housing shortages
- Condition, adequacy, and capacity of existing staff quarters
- Availability, suitability, and affordability of Government-owned, leased, or private-sector housing within a reasonable commuting distance
- Reliance on temporary housing, extended commutes, or other interim measures
- Assesses the availability, affordability, and suitability of local private-sector or government housing within a reasonable commuting distance.
Lower availability = higher score.
- Housing Verification Survey findings (if available)

Projects demonstrating significant operational impact combined with limited housing alternatives will score highest.

2. Remoteness (10 points)

Assesses the relative isolation of the facility and challenges associated with its location.

Reviewers will consider:

- Distance from population centers and essential services
- Transportation access and travel conditions
- Geographic, environmental, or climatic factors that limit housing options

More remote and hard-to-access locations will receive higher scores.

3. Project Cost & Cost Effectiveness (25 points)

Evaluates the reasonableness and cost-effectiveness of the proposed project.

Reviewers will consider:

- Total project cost and cost per unit
- Appropriateness of the proposed scope relative to cost
- Efficient use of HCFC funds
- Leveraging of other funding sources, if applicable

Projects demonstrating sound cost controls and efficient use of funds will score higher.

4. Sustainability & Energy Efficiency (10 points)

Assesses the incorporation of sustainable and energy-efficient design features that reduce lifecycle costs and environmental impacts.

Reviewers will consider:

- Energy-efficient building systems and envelopes
- Use of renewable energy or high-efficiency technologies
- Water conservation and waste-reduction strategies
- Long-term operations and maintenance considerations

Projects that meaningfully integrate sustainability into the design will score higher.

5. Innovation (10 points)

Evaluates the use of innovative approaches that enhance project delivery or long-term performance.

Reviewers will consider:

- Innovative construction methods (e.g., modular or prefabricated construction)
- Use of advanced materials or systems
- Design solutions that improve functionality, durability, or adaptability
- Operations and maintenance
- Staff quality of life (e.g., EV charging, resiliency features)

Projects demonstrating thoughtful and practical innovation will score highest.