



October 2, 2020

## GENERAL NEWS

### OLHCHH Issues Memo on Lead Risk Assessment and COVID-19

HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes ([OLHCHH](#)) has issued a [memorandum](#) dated September 24 as an addendum to its [Policy Guidance 2013-01](#) on conducting lead-based paint inspections and risk assessments. The policy guidance states that risk assessments used along with lead-based paint inspections as part of scoping the work are valid for no more than 12 months from the date completed. The guidance also recommends that risk assessments be conducted within six months before the hazard control work because the results are more current and accurate. However, the September 24 memorandum provides the following COVID-19-related update:

*Until further notice, if a home or residential property that your program has enrolled for performing lead hazard control work had a lead risk assessment completed more than 12 months before the lead hazard control work is scheduled to be conducted, you should attempt to obtain a new or updated risk assessment. If pandemic-related business conditions—such as the unavailability of risk assessment firms in the area of the home or residential property to conduct lead risk assessments of target housing, when, before the pandemic, such firms were available—make obtaining a new or updated risk assessment infeasible and you still wish to conduct the lead hazard control work in the home, you must contact your grant's Government Technical Representative (GTR) to request authorization to use the earlier risk assessment before any lead hazard control work is contracted for or begun. In your request, you must describe the situation and the degree of diligence of your efforts to obtain a new or updated risk assessment in detail.*

## HCV PROGRAM NEWS

### PIH Announces Informal Monthly Call, Updates Tools

On the [Tools](#) page on the Housing Choice Vouchers ([HCV](#)) website, HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) announced that the inaugural HCV Monthly Thursday Utilization Party, an informal, working call to be held the fourth Thursday of each month, will kick off on October 22, 2020, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern time. The calls will discuss information related to optimizing a PHA's HCV program, including tool examples, financial and programmatic news, national trends, best practices, and the like. The announcement states that call-in and other details will be posted soon.

PIH has also posted updated versions of the two-year projection tool ([TYT](#)) and the Tool of Tools ([ToT](#)) for the HCV program to the Tools page. The tools are current as of September 25. You can access the tools through HUD's Secure Systems.



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