

December 10, 2021

GENERAL NEWS

PIH Issues Notice on Expedited Regulatory Waivers for PH and HCV Programs

Yesterday HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) issued Notice PIH 2021-34 to advise PHAs that they may apply for certain regulatory waivers that were originally offered as part of the CARES Act waivers in Notice PIH 2021-14 to provide continued flexibility during the pandemic and pandemic recovery. HUD will expeditiously respond to these waiver requests in accordance with Section 106 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989. Highlights of the notice include the following:

- PHAs must utilize the process established in the notice to submit waiver requests and include justification of good cause to trigger the expedited HUD review.
- The use of the expedited waiver process only applies to waivers explicitly stated in Section 5 of the notice.
- PHAs may continue to request other regulatory waivers as necessary to operate its HCV and PH programs; however, they will not be subject to the expedited process.
- The notice also provides for an expedited approval process for one new waiver in the HCV program related to payment standards that will help facilitate leasing and which was not part of the CARES Act waivers.
- The CARES Act statutory waivers made available through Notice PIH 2021-14 expire on December 31, 2021, and will not be extended.
- Section 4 of the notice describes operational flexibilities that PHAs may utilize without a waiver or advance approval from HUD.
- Section 6 of the notice describes other regulatory waivers that PHAs can request that will not be expedited.

Waiver requests must be received on or before **March 1, 2022**, to receive expedited processing. Waiver duration should be limited to only the time necessary for a PHA to resume normal operations but may not exceed December 31, 2022. HUD may provide a shorter timeframe or other conditions as a part of an approval. Further information can be found in the <u>notice</u>.



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