



March 18, 2021

GENERAL NEWS

EPA Updates Dust-Lead Clearance Levels

On January 7, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a [final rule](#) updating the dust-lead clearance levels—that is, the levels required to determine whether clearance has been achieved after a dust swipe is taken upon the completion of lead abatement activities. The rule amends [40 CFR 745.227\(e\)\(8\)\(viii\)](#) to lower the clearance levels from 40 micrograms per square foot to 10 micrograms per square foot for floors, and from 250 micrograms to 100 micrograms for windowsills. The rule also revised the definition of *clearance levels* at [40 CFR 745.223](#).

As you know, PHAs are required to comply with the lead-based paint regulations at [24 CFR Part 35](#). Note that while [24 CFR 35.1320](#) has not yet been updated with the new clearance standards, the [new rule](#) is explicit that it does indeed apply to federal agencies that own residential property and property owners that receive assistance through federal housing programs.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts HCV Landlord Newsletter

Recently on the [HCV Landlord Resources](#) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) posted the [first issue](#) of the new HCV Landlord Newsletter. According to the introduction, HUD plans to issue the newsletter on a quarterly basis to provide tips for landlords on working with the Housing Choice Voucher ([HCV](#)) program, regulatory updates, research, and stories from HCV landlords, tenants, and PHAs from around the country. Dated March 2021, the current issue covers the following topics:

- Marketing to HCV tenants
- A look back at the HCV program
- A spotlight on a Family Unification Program ([FUP](#)) participant who entered the program after aging out of foster care

You can access the newsletter [here](#) on the [HCV Landlord Resources](#) webpage.



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