



May 4, 2020

MTW PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Updates Special Purpose Voucher Guidance for MTW Agencies

The Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) has updated its questions and answers (Q&A) guidance on special purpose vouchers (SPVs) administered by Moving to Work ([MTW](#)) agencies. The [document](#), dated April 30, covers various topics related to SPVs, such as MTW fungibility, applying MTW program flexibilities, new SPV types including Foster Youth to Independence vouchers, and reporting requirements for SPVs. According to an announcement accompanying the release, HUD intends to continue updating this document as new SPV types are authorized and if any changes are needed for SPVs administered by MTW agencies. You'll find a [link](#) to the updated Q&A on the [MTW page](#) at HUD's website.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces NOFA for Lead and Healthy Homes Technical Studies

Last Friday on [Grants.gov](#), HUD [announced](#) the pre-application and full application stages of a notice of funding availability ([NOFA](#)) for its 2020 Lead and Healthy Homes Technical Studies grant program.

According to the program description, funding is available "to fund technical studies to improve existing methods for detecting and controlling key housing-related health and safety hazards, including lead-based paint hazards; to develop new methods to detect and control these hazards; and to improve our knowledge of these key housing-related health and safety hazards." The NOFA makes \$7,000,000 available under the program. The application deadline is **July 15, 2020**.

PH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Allocates Second Wave of COVID-19 Relief Funds

In a [press release](#) last Friday, HUD announced that it has allocated \$685 million through the Public Housing Operating Fund as part of the second round of COVID-19 relief funding. As stated last week in Notice [PIH 2020-07](#), the funds may be used for the following actions:

- Preparing for a coronavirus outbreak, including creating or updating an infectious disease outbreak plan, obtaining personal protective equipment for PHA staff, coordinating with providers of services needed to support residents and local health services providers, child care costs for residents and staff performing essential functions (to the extent that they would not have incurred otherwise), and other reasonable expenses
- Preventing a coronavirus outbreak, including costs related to maintaining adequate social distancing, costs of delivering supplies so that residents or staff can shelter in place, direct costs related to limiting the spread of the virus, expenses of isolating people suspected of being exposed or those at high risk of serious complications, costs of protecting residents from exposure from interaction with PHA staff and vice versa, and payment of salaries of PHA staff unable to work because of public health restrictions
- Responding to a coronavirus outbreak, including expenses of caring for PHA staff and residents who have tested positive but do not require immediate hospitalization, expenses to safely transport residents or staff in need of medical attention, expenses incurred because of coronavirus restrictions impacting PHA operations, costs to facilitate and coordinate with local schools and local governments receiving funds from the Department of Education for educating students in public housing, and other reasonable expenses incurred in responding to the virus

As you recall, in addition to the relief funding, PHAs may use operating funds and capital funds provided through prior appropriations acts for coronavirus purposes as well. A [list of allocations](#) and further details on eligible expenses can be found in the [press release](#).



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