



May 6, 2021

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Issues Notice on Emergency Housing Voucher Operating Requirements

Late yesterday HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) issued Notice [PIH 2021-15](#) to describe the process HUD is using to allocate approximately 70,000 emergency housing vouchers (EHVs) to PHAs, and to set forth the operating requirements for EHV. The purpose of EHV is to assist individuals and families who are or at risk of experiencing homelessness, fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or who were recently homeless where providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness or high risk of housing instability. Funding for EHV was appropriated under Section 3202 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Specifically, the notice covers the following topics with respect to EHV:

- The allocation formula, which is designed to direct emergency vouchers to PHAs operating in areas where the EHV-eligible populations have the greatest need, while also taking into account PHA capacity and the requirement to ensure geographic diversity, including rural areas.
- The invitation and acceptance process, through which HUD will notify eligible PHAs of the number of EHV allocated to them by May 10, 2021, and provide specific instructions on accepting or declining the allocation.
- Details regarding administrative fees funding for EHV and funding for other eligible expenses.
- How EHV HAP funding amounts are calculated, including the initial funding allocation and the renewal funding process.
- Individual and family eligibility under the qualifying categories discussed above, including defining exactly what exactly constitutes each category.
- Waivers and alternative requirements concerning EHV. Note that EHV are considered tenant-based vouchers, so unless expressly waived per the notice, all statutory and regulatory requirements of the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program apply to EHV. This also means that Project-Based Voucher (PBV) assistance is inapplicable to EHV.

- Issues concerning Moving-to-Work (MTW) PHAs, and nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements.
- Termination of vouchers upon turnover after September 30, 2023, at which time PHAs may not reissue EHV's when assistance for an assisted family ends.
- Other issues regarding HUD's ability to revoke or recapture, the use of funds and reporting requirements, and recordkeeping.

Further details on EHV's and their allocation and operating requirements can be found in the [notice](#).

GENERAL NEWS

Federal Judge Throws Out Eviction Moratorium, Order on Hold

Yesterday a federal judge [threw out](#) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) [eviction moratorium](#), but agreed to put a temporary hold on her ruling while the government challenges it. The judge stated that although there was "no doubt" Congress intended to empower the CDC to combat COVID-19 through a range of measures such as quarantines, a moratorium on residential evictions was not among them. The Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) sought an immediate emergency order to put the judge's decision on hold, arguing that evictions worsen the spread of COVID-19, and that the harm to the public that would result could not be undone. While the ruling is on hold, landlord groups have until May 12 to file legal papers opposing the delay, and the Justice Department has only four days to respond after the landlord groups file legal papers.

HUD and HHS Announce Effort to Increase COVID-19 Vaccine Access

In a [press release](#) yesterday, the Departments of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) and Health and Human Services ([HHS](#)) announced a joint-agency effort to increase access to COVID-19 prevention and treatment services, such as testing and vaccinations, among disproportionately affected communities. The effort leverages the Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program, which supplies vaccines to nearly 800 health centers across the country. HUD and HHS aim to reach more than 6,000 multifamily housing properties, 6,700 homeless shelters, and approximately 7,500 public housing properties as part of the effort. You can read HUD Secretary Fudge and HHS Secretary Becerra's letter on the joint effort [here](#), and view a the fact sheet on the joint effort [here](#).



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