



August 11, 2020

PH PROGRAM NEWS

REAC Issues Memo on Resuming Physical Inspections

Yesterday HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center ([REAC](#)) issued a [memorandum](#) to provide information to business partners of its intent to resume physical inspections on or about October 5, 2020, with the required 14-day notification period to begin on or about September 21, 2020. According to the memo, REAC plans to accomplish its goal using a three-phased approach that combines the need to ensure stakeholder safety with REAC's mission to provide "independent, actionable assessments that advance risk-informed decisions about the condition of the nation's affordable housing portfolio." The three phases in REAC's approach are:

- Phase One: Prioritization and Evaluation
- Phase Two: Finalization and Notification
- Phase Three: Inspection and Release of Inspection Results

The details of each phase are discussed in the [memo](#). As you recall, HUD announced its intention to resume inspections in a [press release](#) last week. REAC has stated that it will prioritize inspections in states and localities based on the latest COVID-19 data from Johns Hopkins University and health risk scoring methodology from the Harvard Global Health Institute. A "heat map" that categorizes states and localities based on their risk categories can be found on the [REAC webpage](#). Inspectors will prioritize properties with historically low REAC scores (high-risk properties) in low-risk localities. The locations will change over time, and HUD intends to adjust its inspection plans as needed.

PIH Updates OpFund Grant Eligibility in Web Portal

Today on the Financial Management Division (FMD) email list, HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) announced that it has released updated Operating Fund grant eligibility in the Operating Fund (OpFund) Web Portal. PHAs can find their updated eligibility in the PHA Form 52723/52722 Modules. Links to these modules can be found on the [CY 2020 Operating Fund Grant Processing page](#) at the [operating fund website](#). If you do not have access to the OpFund Portal, you can follow the directions found [here](#).

PHAs should review their updated eligibility and submit any questions or comments to their Field Office by email no later than **August 19, 2020**. To join the FMD email list, click [here](#).

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Announces Latest Round of CARES Act Funding for HCV Program

In a [press release](#) late yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has allocated \$472 million in CARES Act funding for PHAs to help families assisted under the Housing Choice Voucher ([HCV](#)) and [Mainstream](#) programs prevent, prepare, and respond to COVID-19. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Procuring cleaning supplies and/or services to maintain safe and sanitary HCV units, including common areas of PHA-owned project-based voucher (PBV) projects
- Relocation of participating families to health units or other designated units for testing, hospitalization, or quarantine, or transportation to these locations to limit the exposure that could be caused by using mass transportation
- Additional costs to supportive services vendors incurred due to coronavirus
- Costs to retain or increase owner participation in the HCV program, such as incentive or retention costs (e.g., the PHA offers owner an incentive payment to participate in recognition of added difficulties of making units available for HCV families to rent while stay-at-home orders or social distancing practices are in effect)
- Costs for providing childcare for the children of PHA staff that would not have otherwise been incurred (e.g., children are at home due to school closings, PHA staff are working outside of regular work schedules, etc.)

A [link](#) to the list of allocations can be found in the [press release](#).



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