



August 4, 2020

GENERAL NEWS

Letter to EDs Addresses Timely Use of CARES Act Funding

This morning HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) issued a [letter to executive directors](#) discussing the timely use of funding provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Given the challenges many PHAs and residents face, the letter expresses concern over the slow utilization of the funding, stating that to date PHAs have drawn down and expended only 15 percent of the supplemental Operating Funds that have been made available. As such, the letter addresses the following topics:

- The significant spending flexibility to use supplemental Operating Funds for any eligible Operating Fund or Capital Fund activity, as well as the flexibility in spending HCV administrative fees, highlighting those eligible costs.
- The guidance on eligible expenditures and supplemental funding set forth in Notices [PIH 2020-07](#), [PIH 2020-08](#), [PIH 2020-17](#), and [PIH 2020-18](#).
- Periods of eligibility for supplemental HCV administrative fees, HAP funding, and Operating Funds.
- Detailed forthcoming guidance on reporting requirements.

Further details on each of these topics can be found in today's [letter](#).

REAC Posts Updated NSPIRE Standards

Last week HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center ([REAC](#)) [announced Version 1.3](#) of its inspection standards under the new physical inspection model, National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate ([NSPIRE](#)). As you know, the NSPIRE [demonstration](#) was announced last year to overhaul HUD's inspection process and test new approaches for making certain PHAs and owners provide housing that is safe and livable. NSPIRE will eventually be implemented as a single inspection protocol for public housing and HCV units. According to the [announcement](#), [Version 1.3](#) greatly improves technical accuracy, relevant, and clarity, and better defines the applicability to the HCV program. The format has also been updated for ease of use.

During the demonstration, revisions to standards will be posted to the website to provide the industry, stakeholders, and the public the opportunity to examine the proposed changes, provide feedback, and suggest relevant industry best practices. HUD welcomes comments on all aspects of the standards. Feedback on the revised list can be submitted by clicking [here](#).



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