



September 18, 2020

PH PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Provides Guidance on Capital Fund Safety and Security Grants

Yesterday HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) issued Notice PIH 2020-25 to provide guidance on emergency capital needs funding for safety and security measures necessary to address crime and drug-related activity or a need for carbon monoxide detectors. The notice supersedes HUD’s previous guidance in Notice PIH 2019-22, and it does not apply to funding for unforeseen or unpreventable emergencies or for non-presidentially declared natural disasters, which will be given funding priority on a rolling basis. Below are a few highlights:

- If the funds available exceed the amount requested by the due date, all on-time eligible applications will be funded, and any applications received after the due date will be considered on a first come, first served basis until the funds are exhausted.
- If the funds requested exceed available funds, the Department will select applications through a lottery process designed to achieve a broad national distribution of funds.
- Effective with Notice PIH 2019-22, the Department included the threat of carbon monoxide poisoning as a potential emergency safety need for public housing residents and it may elect at its option to include costs for the purchase, repair, replacement, and installation of carbon monoxide detectors as eligible activities for emergency safety and security grant funding.
- The emergencies for which funding is requested must have occurred within the federal fiscal year (October 1–September 30) in which the funds were appropriated.
- The maximum award will be \$250,000. A PHA may request funding to meet the safety and security needs of more than one public housing development so long as the total funding it requests does not exceed \$250,000.
- Funding is intended to provide one-time assistance for emergency measures that a PHA cannot absorb within its capital fund budget.
- Applications must include a thorough explanation of how the crime or drug-related activity that gave rise to an emergency has increased the threat to the health and safety of public housing residents, or how the PHA has determined a safety emergency which requires the purchase, repair, replacement, or installation of carbon monoxide detectors.
- To be considered complete, applications must include the documents listed in section 11 of the notice.

The due date for applications will be posted on OCI’s website.

PIH Provides Guidance on Funding of New Units

HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) has posted a 16-page guidance that provides instructions to PHAs on the submission of new project/units for purposes of operating fund (OpFund) grant eligibility for calendar year 2021. According to 24 CFR 990.155, new projects/units are: “New units that were added to the ACC, and occupied by a public housing-eligible family during the prior reporting period for the one-year funding period, but have not been included in the previous Eligible Unit Months (EUMs) data.” As the guidance explains:

Existing project/units use the reporting period July 1 to June 30 to determine unit status. The reporting period for existing project/units always begins 18 months before the start of the funding year and ends six months before its start. For example, if the current funding year is 2020 then the most recent reporting period is July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. Since new project/units do not have unit status data for a full reporting period, special OpFund grant processing procedures have been established for the funding of new project/units when they initially come on-line. This special procedure only applies until the project has data for a full reporting period, which will take one or two years. Then the PHA will be able to complete the forms HUD-52723 and HUD-52722 following the procedures for existing project/units.

The procedures differ for the following categories of new units:

- Those that become available between January 1 and the revisions deadline
- Those that become available between the revisions’ deadline and September 30
- Those that become available between October 1 and December 31

You will find a link to the new guidance on the 2021 operating fund grant processing webpage.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Updates Two-Year Projection Tool

On the Tools page on the Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) website, HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) posted an updated version of the two-year projection tool (TYT) for the HCV program. The tool is current as of September 17, 2020. You can access the tool and instruction guide through HUD’s Secure Systems.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces Disaster Assistance for Oregon Wildfire Victims

In a press release yesterday, HUD announced federal disaster assistance for the State of Oregon to provide support to homeowners and low-income renters displaced from their homes in areas affected by wildfires and straight-line winds. A presidential major disaster declaration issued on September 15, 2020, allows HUD to offer foreclosure relief and other assistance to certain families living in impacted counties.

According to the press release, the disaster assistance will:

- Grant a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures of FHA-insured homes
- Make mortgage insurance available under HUD’s Section 203(h) program
- Make insurance available for both mortgages and home rehabilitation under HUD’s Section 203(k) program
- Make information on housing providers and HUD programs available

Click here for more information about disaster resources.



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