

September 27, 2021

HUD-VASH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Revises Implementation of HUD-VASH Program

Today in the *Federal Register*, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) published a <u>notice</u> revising the implementation of the HUD–Veterans Affairs (<u>VA</u>) supportive housing (<u>HUD-VASH</u>) program. The document sets forth the policies and procedures for the administration of the HUD-VASH vouchers and includes new waivers and program flexibilities as well as additional general guidance.

According to the publication, the new waivers and program flexibilities include:

- Allowing a PHA to act in the role of the VA Medical Center (VAMC) or designated service provider (DSP) for the purposes of family selection in cases where the PHA has been previously approved for this authority.
- Allowing a PHA and owner to agree to amend a PBV HAP contract to redesignate a regular PBV unit as a unit specifically designated for HUD-VASH families.
- Allowing PHAs to apply separate payment standards for HUD-VASH families without additional HUD approval.
- A new requirement that PHAs must allow special housing types for HUD-VASH.

The notice also specifies the updates made to existing requirements:

- Allowing PHAs to house HUD-VASH veterans referred by the VA in a PBV unit without selecting from the PHA's waiting lists or applying local preferences.
- Additional explanation regarding the process for portability moves for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- · Additional details regarding case management requirements from the VAMC or DSP.
- Explanation that if a family breaks up, the HUD-VASH assistance must stay with the HUD-VASH veteran; however, in the case of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in which the HUD-VASH veteran is the perpetrator, the victim must continue to be assisted.
- Explanation that a Moving to Work (MTW) PHA can apply their approved MTW provisions to their HUD-VASH program with approval from HUD's Housing Choice Voucher office.
- Explanation regarding the application of HUD-VASH waivers and flexibilities to HUD-VASH PBV.
- Explanation of HUD-VASH PBV exceptions under the Housing Opportunities Through Modernization Act (HOTMA).
- Explanation that when a HUD-VASH family is eligible to move from its PBV unit, the family must be able to move with a HUD-VASH tenant-based voucher.
- Additional explanation of the HUD-VASH reallocation process through voluntary moves between PHAs and voucher recapture for future reallocation.

Further information can be found in the notice.



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