



September 30, 2020

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces DDAs and QCTs for 2021

On September 25 in the *Federal Register*, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) published a [notice](#) announcing the 2021 difficult development area (DDA) designations and qualified census tracts (QCTs) for the low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) program. LIHTC properties developed in areas with a DDA or QCT designation are eligible to receive up to a 30 percent basis boost. HUD makes new DDA and QCT designations annually on the basis of income and fair market rent (FMR) data. The 2020 QCTs and DDAs are effective for allocations of credit or if the bonds are issued and the building is placed in service after December 31, 2020. An explanation of the effective date for other circumstances can be found in part VI of the notice.

As in the past, the notice does not actually contain the revised lists of QCTs and DDAs. Instead, the data and other supplementary information are available on [this page](#) at [PD&R's website](#).

HUD Posts Updated COVID-19 FAQs for PHAs

Yesterday on the [Public and Indian Housing COVID-19 Resources](#) webpage, HUD posted an updated version of its COVID-19 FAQs for Public Housing Agencies. [Version 6 of the FAQs](#), dated September 29, contains several updates concerning face coverings, waivers, utility allowances, repayment agreements, unemployment bonuses, and medical expenses for COVID-19 prevention, among others. Updated and new questions are flagged as such, and answers to some of the questions will continue to change as HUD develops more detailed guidance. For details on specific topics, you can review the answers marked "Updated" and "New" in the [FAQs](#). Note that question numbers may have changed from prior versions.

HUD Charges NY and WY Housing Providers with Discrimination

In a [press release](#) today, the HUD announced that it is [charging](#) housing providers in Wyoming with discrimination on the basis of familial status. HUD's charge alleges that the housing providers violated the federal [Fair Housing Act](#) by setting restrictive terms and conditions on tenants with children.

In another [press release](#) today, HUD also announced that it is [charging](#) an apartment building owner in New York with disability discrimination. This charge alleges that the owner violated the Fair Housing Act by refusing to allow a resident with disabilities to keep an assistance animal.

Under the Fair Housing Act, it is unlawful to deny or limit housing to families that have children under the age of 18, including setting restrictive terms and conditions on them. It is also unlawful under the Act to deny or limit housing to people with disabilities, including refusing to make reasonable accommodations. Allowing people with disabilities to have assistance animals that perform work, tasks, or provide disability-related emotional support is considered a reasonable accommodation under the Act.

PH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts Tenant and Property Age Data for LBP Capital Fund NOFA

HUD's Office of Capital Improvements has recently posted a new Excel spreadsheet concerning the notice of funding availability ([NOFA](#)) for the 2020 Lead-Based Paint Capital Fund program. The [spreadsheet](#) details property age based on the construction dates for the lead-based paint program and preliminary tenant data for the NOFA. The application deadline for the NOFA is **November 2, 2020**.



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