



December 9, 2022

PH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Announces Latest in PH Repositioning Webinar Series

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has [announced](#) that it will be hosting the latest in its series of training webinars on repositioning public housing. The series enables PHAs to understand multiple aspects of the repositioning process and identify strategies and resources available to successfully complete it. As such, the series is relevant for PHA directors, staff, residents, board members, and others working with PHAs to develop and execute a repositioning strategy.

The latest scheduled webinar, titled "[Commensurate Public Benefit](#)," will provide examples of commensurate public benefits that the Special Applications Center ([SAC](#)) has approved and not approved. Panelists will discuss the following:

- Case studies that include housing and non-dwelling benefits
- The factors SAC considers in evaluating proposed commensurate public benefit
- Required use restrictions to ensure commensurate public benefits

The live web conference is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2022, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Eastern time. Click [here](#) for more information, including [instructions](#) on how to register.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Releases Statement on 2023 Median Family Income and Income Limits

HUD has published a [statement](#) on FY 2023 median family income estimates and income limits. According to the document, since FY 2011, HUD has based its median family income estimates on data from the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS). Since FY 2012, there has been a three-year lag between the ACS estimates and the fiscal year for which the income limits are in effect. For example, the FY 2022 median family incomes and income limits were based on the ACS 2019 data. However, on July 29, 2021, the Census Bureau announced that it would not release standard one-year estimates from the 2020 ACS because of the impacts of the COVID–19 pandemic on data collection, which resulted in the one-year estimates not meeting the Census Bureau’s Statistical Data Quality Standards.

The FY 2023 median family incomes and income limits would ordinarily be based on the ACS 2020 estimates. However, because of the lack of one-year ACS 2020 estimates described above, HUD intends to instead base the FY 2023 median family incomes and income limits on ACS 2021 data. Since 2014, HUD has released median family incomes and income limits in March or April of each year. Because the special tabulations of ACS 2021 data HUD needs for median family income calculations will not be available until early 2023, HUD intends to delay the release of FY 2023 median family incomes and income limits until on or about May 15, 2023. Should HUD revise this date, it will make a similar announcement.

HUD annually calculates estimates of median family income for every area of the country. These estimates are used to calculate various income limits, which are defined as percentages of median family income, and vary by the number of persons in a household. HUD uses income limits to define low-income status and resulting eligibility for many of its housing assistance programs.

You’ll find a link to the statement on [this page](#) at the [HUD User website](#).

DOJ Issues Memo on Language Access for LEP People, Revamps ADA Website

The Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) has issued a [memorandum](#) requesting that federal agencies review their language access practices and policies to strengthen the federal government’s engagement with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP). The memo outlines a course of action for federal agencies to improve, modernize, and carry out their language access responsibilities under Executive Order 13166, “Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency.”

The memo directs the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, with the assistant of the Language Access Coordinator, to work in collaboration with federal agencies to determine: (1) whether agencies can further update their language access policies and plans; (2) whether agencies are effectively reaching LEP individuals when disseminating information about federal resources, programs, and services; (3) whether agencies have considered updates or modifications to guidance to federal financial assistance recipients regarding their obligations to provide meaningful language access under the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its implementing regulations; and (4) whether agencies can adapt their digital communications to welcome LEP individuals. The Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights will also request that each agency provide an updated language access plan within 180 days of this memorandum.

The Civil Rights Division continues to maintain a [LEP website](#), which provides resources and information to help expand and improve language assistance services for LEP individuals, in compliance with federal law.

DOJ also [announced](#) that it has launched a new and improved version of the Americans with Disabilities Act ([ADA](#)) website. According to the announcement, the revamped website is designed to more effectively serve the public and help expand access for people with disabilities. The site is modern, user-centered, works on mobile devices, includes easy-to-use navigation tools, and is written in plain language.



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