6/4/24, 3:26 PM Your PIH Alert for June 4, 2024



June 4, 2024

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Requests Registrations of Interest for VASH Vouchers

Yesterday HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) published Notice PIH 2024-18, 2024 Registration of Interest for HUD-VASH Vouchers. The notice announces the availability of approximately \$78 million in HUD-Veterans Affairs (VA) supportive housing (HUD-VASH). The Department anticipates that the funding will support about 7,800 new HUD-VASH vouchers.

The notice makes available \$5 million of the \$15 million provided by the 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The additional \$73 million in funding is available from prior year appropriations. In accordance with the 2024 Act, up to \$10 million of the appropriated funds may be utilized for additional fees for administrative and other expenses of PHAs in administering HUD-VASH vouchers. HUD has made available all \$10 million for additional administrative fees under Notice PIH 2024-10.

The HUD-VASH vouchers awards will follow a two-step process:

- Eligible PHAs will respond to the notice via the Registration of Interest (ROI) link located on the <u>HUD-VASH webpage</u>. Please note that signed Letters of Support from partnering VAMCs are required and should be uploaded at the time of PHA submission.
- Based on a relative need formula, using VA Gap Analysis data, registered PHAs that are selected will receive an invitation to apply for a specific number of HUD-VASH vouchers. This number is the maximum number of vouchers being offered. PHAs may choose to apply for fewer vouchers.

PHAs must consult with their partnering VA facility to discuss their intentions of submitting a ROI and request the required Letter of Support for HUD-VASH vouchers. PHAs currently administering the HCV program that also meet the threshold criteria detailed in Section 6 of Notice PIH 2024-18 are eligible to submit a ROI. PHAs without a current HUD-VASH program are not subject to the utilization threshold requirements outlined in Section 6.a and are eligible to submit a ROI if the other threshold requirements in Section 6.c. are met.

The deadline for submitting a ROI is August 30, 2024. Further details can be found in the notice.

HUD to Host Webinar on Improving PHA Leasing Processes

On the <u>HCV program trainings and resources</u> webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that it will host a webinar titled "HCV Utilization - Improving PHA Leasing Processes." The webinar will explore innovative strategies, like remote inspections, preinspections, leveraging other funds for deposits/rent, expediting eligibility determinations, and streamlined recertifications to help PHAs lease units faster and more effectively. The live web conference is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time. To register, click

The HCV Utilization webinar series is intended to help Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program administrators learn about the latest HCV resources, program guidance, policy changes, and best practices in HCV administration. You can watch previous webinars here.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces Innovative Housing Showcase Educational Sessions

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) has announced that on Thursday, June 6, and Friday, June 7, 2024, it will host hybrid panel discussions on housing innovation, including individual sessions on offsite construction, building codes, manufactured housing, decarbonization, zoning, public and multifamily housing, resilience, and finance. The sessions will feature dynamic discussions between leaders across the public, private, and government sectors, with a special focus on the cross-sector collaborations needed to seed and scale innovative approaches to creating more abundant, affordable, and sustainable housing.

The two-day program will kick off HUD's annual <u>Innovative Housing Showcase</u>, a public event to raise awareness of innovative and affordable housing designs and technologies. Register here to attend the event in person or via webcast.

HUD Announces Assistance for Maine and Nebraska Disaster Survivors

In two press releases last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) announced the implementation of federal disaster assistance to supplement state, tribal, and local recovery efforts in the areas of the State of Maine affected by severe winter storms, from April 3 to April 5, 2024, and in the areas of the State of Nebraska affected by severe winter storms, and straight-line winds from April 6 to April 7, 2024.

Two presidential major <u>disaster</u> <u>declarations</u> issued on May 24, 2024, allow HUD to offer assistance to state, tribal, and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of damaged facilities in impacted counties. Effective immediately, for both states, the Department will:

- Grant a <u>90-day moratorium</u> on foreclosures of FHA-insured homes
- Make mortgage insurance available under <u>HUD's Section 203(h)</u> program • Make insurance available for both mortgages and home rehabilitation under <u>HUD's</u>
- Make <u>information on housing providers</u> and HUD programs available
- · Provide flexibility to Community Planning and Development Grantees, which can apply for needed administrative flexibility in response to natural disasters. For more information on applying for a waiver or suspension of program requirements, contact your local CPD program office.
- Provide flexibility to PHAs, which can apply for needed waivers and flexibilities for disaster relief and recovery. To find detailed information on applying for a waiver, click <u>here</u> for the latest Federal Register disaster relief notice. The Department also released Notice PIH 2021-34, which advises the public of HUD's expedited process for waivers and flexibilities from HUD regulatory and administrative requirements for various public housing and
- voucher programs. • Provide administrative flexibility to tribes and their tribally designated housing entities
- Ensure <u>HUD-approved housing counseling agencies</u> are ready to assist
- Assist with housing discrimination

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures in both states. Click <u>here</u> for more information about disaster resources.



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