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July 10, 2023

PH PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Issues Notice on the Rate Reduction Incentive in Public Housing

Late last Friday, HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) published Notice PIH 2023-17, "Guidance on the Rate Reduction Incentive in Public Housing." The notice supersedes and replaces Notice PIH 2022-34 and supplements information in the current Energy Performance Contracting (EPC), Utility Partnership Program (UPP), and operating fund grant processing notices. Specifically, the document revises the submission date for RRI requests from August 30 to July 31 annually. The deadline for supporting documentation and calculations is still September 30, 2023.

The RRI is a financial incentive that provides additional operating fund grant formula eligibility to PHAs that pursue special and significant efforts beyond what is required by statute and/or regulation to reduce their utility rate.

OCI Posts 2024 Cap Fund Certification Schedule

HUD's Office of Capital Improvements (<u>OCI</u>) has posted the following announcement about the capital fund certification schedule for next year at the top of <u>OCI's home page</u>:

In preparation for the calculation of FY 2024 Capital Fund grant awards, the annual PIC certification process will run from July 5 through August 15, 2023. The "reporting date" for this round of certifications is June 30, 2023.

During the certification period, PHA Executive Directors certify to the accuracy of the PHA's inventory information in the PIC system as of the reporting date of June 30. This process is critical to ensuring the accurate calculation of grant awards.

For further information on completing the PIC Certification process, please refer to the UPDATED <u>Step-by-Step User Guide</u>. If you encounter issues in IMS/PIC, including issues submitting building and unit data for approval, please consult the information on known system issues and workarounds available <u>here</u>.

Schedule:

Reporting Date: 6/30/2023 Certification Open: 7/5/2023 Certification Deadline: 8/15/2023

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Publishes Quarterly Regulatory Waivers

In a Federal Register notice today, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) published a list of the regulatory waivers that it granted during the fourth quarter of calendar year 2022. You'll find the waivers granted by the Office of Public and Indian Housing on page 43923 of the notice (PDF page 16). The PIH office granted the following waivers during the quarter:

- Three involved waiving the HCV regulation stating that any present or former member/officer of a PHA may not have any direct or indirect interest in the HAP contract.
- Three waived the requirement for a PHA to submit a Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) certification within 60 days after the end of its fiscal year.
- One waived the regulation at 24 CFR 983.51, which provides for owner proposal selection procedures; and 24 CFR 983.59(a), which provides for selection procedures for PHA owned units in accordance with 24 CFR 983.51(e).
- Fifteen involved the extension of the reporting compliance dates for submission of audited financial statements to the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC).
- One involved allowing a PHA to adopt payment standards about 120 percent of the small area fair market rent (SAFMR).
- One permitted establishment of a site-specific utility allowance for a project-based
- voucher (PBV) project.Several involved allowing PHAs to increase the payment standard during the housing
- assistance payment term.
 Several involved allowing PHAs to establish payment standards from 111 to 120 percent
- of the fair market rent.



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