



September 12, 2022

PH PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Updates OpFund Grant Eligibility in Web Portal

In an email today via HUD's Financial Management Division (FMD) [mailing list](#), HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) announced that it has published updated operating fund grant eligibility for all public housing developments in the [operating fund web portal](#). PHAs can find their updated eligibility in the PHA Reports & Submissions module. This updated eligibility includes revisions made to forms HUD-52723 and HUD-52722 and for new projects. PHAs should review their updated eligibility and submit any questions or comments to their field office by email no later than **September 21, 2022**.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Posts Updated HCV Guidebook Chapter

HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) has posted an updated version of the [HCV Financial Management](#) chapter to its [webpage](#) dedicated to the new working version of the Housing Choice Voucher Program Guidebook. The 115-page document is dated August 2022.

As you know, the new version of the guidebook is being released chapter-by-chapter as "living documents," and HUD is amending individual chapters as policies are refined. Chapters that have not yet been released are listed as "coming soon."

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Settles Disability Discrimination Case against Housing Authority in TX

In a [press release](#) last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has entered into a voluntary compliance agreement/conciliation agreement ([VCA-CA](#)) with a housing authority in Texas. The agreement arises from a complaint filed by a former public housing tenant alleging that the housing authority violated several civil rights laws when it failed to grant her reasonable request to move to a ground-floor unit after a car accident precluded her ability to climb the stairs to her second-floor apartment.

The settlement resolves HUD's letter of findings, which found that the housing provider discriminated against the tenant in violation of [Section 504](#) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and [Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA), as well as the tenant's complaint of disability discrimination under the [Fair Housing Act](#). HUD also found that the housing authority retaliated against the tenant after she requested a ground-floor unit by refusing to accept her rental payments and then evicting her. The tenant then became homeless. The housing authority denied any wrongdoing in the agreement.

The agreement requires the housing authority to pay \$500,000 to the tenant. It also requires the housing authority to take steps to vacate all judgments it obtained against her and clear any debts the housing authority had alleged she owed. In addition, the housing authority will pay a \$10,528 civil penalty to HUD and overhaul its reasonable accommodation policies and pre-eviction grievance hearing procedures to ensure compliance with the civil rights laws. It will also establish an effective communication policy that ensures individuals with disabilities can participate in all programs.

The Fair Housing Act, Section 504, and the ADA prohibit discrimination in housing because of disability. This includes refusing to provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities when necessary to provide them an equal opportunity to use or enjoy a dwelling.



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