HUD OFFERS $24 MILLION TO HELP LOW-INCOME PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS SECURE HIGHER PAYING JOBS

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today announced that $24 million is being made available to certain qualified Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to help residents increase their earned income and move toward self-sufficiency. HUD’s Jobs-Plus Pilot Program is designed to support work readiness and job placement efforts as well as connecting public housing residents with local employers.

HUD Secretary Julián Castro announced the available funding during a walking tour of a Central Falls, Rhode Island neighborhood.

“HUD is always looking for innovative ways to help families secure new opportunities and reach their full potential,” said Secretary Castro. “This funding uses housing as a platform for success by linking public housing residents with the resources they need to access better paying jobs. HUD has a unique role to play in helping folks better their lives. In addition to helping folks secure decent, affordable housing, we are committed to ensuring that their housing serves as a springboard to success.”

The Jobs-Plus Pilot Program capitalizes on a successful demonstration program that combines traditional employment, training and job placement services with a rent incentive and a place-based investment in building “community support for work.” The program model, which requires PHAs to partner with Department of Labor American Jobs Centers promotes initiatives to improve employment and earnings outcomes, a critical element of self-sufficiency for all families. Targeting an entire development helps residents support each other through the process.

Jobs Plus Pilot Program

This Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announces the availability of funding of approximately $24 million for the Jobs Plus Pilot program for Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) to develop locally-based approaches to increase earnings and advance employment outcomes for Public Housing residents. The NOFA will fund initiatives to improve employment and earnings outcomes for Public Housing residents through supports such as work readiness, employer linkages, job placement and financial literacy. Of the $24 million available, $9 million is made available from the ROSS appropriations to support the services element of the Jobs-Plus Pilot program.

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-5800-N-24
Opportunity Title: Jobs Plus Pilot Program
Competition ID: JPP-24
CFDC No.: 14.895
OMB Approval Numbers: 2577-0281 exp. 10/31/2017
Deadline Date: December 17, 2014

FY 2014 General Section
- Technical Correction
- FONSI
- Program NOFA
- FONSI

CONTACT INFORMATION: HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFA. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications. Questions regarding specific program requirements should be directed to the point of contact listed below. Anice Chenault, JobsPlus@hud.gov HUD will make available FAQs and/or a webcast regarding the Jobs Plus NOFA; any such information will be available at HUD's Fund's Available or on the NOFA-specific page that may be accessed from that page. Applicants may also check HUD's webcast page. Following selection, but prior to award, HUD staff will be available to assist in clarifying or confirming information that is a prerequisite to the offer of an award by HUD.

Posted: Grants.gov

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Service, Integrity, Respect.
This year, more than 230,000 women and 2,000 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer in America. During National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (http://hudatwork.hud.gov/features/breast-cancer-awareness.cfm), we recognize all those who know the anguish of breast cancer, and we redouble our efforts to improve care and bring attention to this disease.

### October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Held each October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is a national campaign that raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many and varied contributions of America’s workers with disabilities. For more information GOTO (http://hudatwork.hud.gov/features/disability-awareness.cfm).
ASSET MANAGEMENT

Asset Building & Financial Literacy Resources

HUD has just published Notice PIH 2014-26. The Notice outlines guidance to inform public housing agencies (PHAs) about financial literacy tools and resources available to help HUD-assisted families enhance their financial literacy and asset building skills. The ultimate goal is to provide low-income residents access to a tool box of financial information they can use to build a future of financial independence.

HUD encourages but does not require PHAs and private owners of HUD-assisted housing to make the information contained in this Notice available to HUD-assisted households. However, with little effort, this information could be made available by incorporating financial information in newsletters distributed with monthly rent requests, or provided during re-certifications. Other programs suited to implement the information in this Notice are Family Self-Sufficiency, ROSS, and HOPE VI. Another source of distributing financial information is the Neighborhood Network center by creating web pages dedicated to providing financial information.

A sound way to build one’s assets is through financial literacy. How can you help? ·

Energy Performance Contracting
NOTICE: PIH-2014-18 (HA)
Public Housing Agencies; Issued: August 8, 2014

Guidance on On-Site Utility Technologies And the Rate Reduction Incentive in Public Housing

Purpose. This notice serves the purposes of encouraging the use of on-site utility technologies – especially on-site renewable energy technologies – at Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and guiding the use of the Rate Reduction Incentive (RRI) in support of these efforts. Further, it clarifies the methods for using on-site utility technologies and RRIs in concert with energy- and water-efficiency retrofit activity and Energy Performance Contract (EPC) incentives. This notice supplements related content found in PIH Notice 2009-43 “Renewable energy and green construction practices in Public Housing” (http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-09-43.pdf) and PIH Notice 2011-36 “Guidance on Energy Performance Contracts” (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=pih2011-36.pdf) and remains effective until amended, superseded, or rescinded.

October is Energy Awareness Month

To commemorate this, on October 30th, HUD and its federal partners, the U.S. Departments of Energy and Education, are launching the first of an 8-part energy literacy Webinar series entitled “Energy is EveryWhere!” The first Webinar will be an introduction to the concept of energy literacy and is geared towards PHA staff who works with residents.

“ENERGY IS EVERYWHERE!” WEBINAR SERIES BEGINS WITH “WHAT IS ENERGY LITERACY?”

The first webinar, What is Energy Literacy?, will provide expert presentations that describe what it means to be energy literate; • Provide information about the work that HUD, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Education are doing to promote energy literacy; • Describe easy-to-use resources that public housing residents can access to learn more about how to conserve energy; and • Q&A – your chance to ask the experts all things energy related!

Register today! Title: "Energy Is Everywhere!" Webinar Series: What is Energy Literacy?
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2014 Time: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EDT
You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

Space is limited.
Reserve your Webinar seat now at:https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/831853200
OPERATING SUBSIDY

The San Francisco Office of Public Housing is gearing up for the submission and review of the operating subsidy calculations for CY 2015.

Information on CY2015 OpSub will be posted on HUD’s webpage, Calendar Year 2015 Subsidy Processing:

The PIH Notice 2014-19, Public Housing Operating Subsidy Calculations for CY 2015 is posted and can be accessed here:

and the CY 2015 UEL inflation factor is posted and can be accessed here:

The submission schedule has not been posted to date.

Our office will require the operating subsidy excel tools to be submitted into our office through a special mailbox that has been created:

OperSubCY2015@hud.gov

Please direct your operating subsidy questions to our Financial Analysts:
Claire Garcia (claire.a.garcia@hud.gov) or Myra Smith (myra.m.smith@hud.gov).
Have you ever witnessed what appeared to be a misuse or abuse of HUD-funded programs? Did you wonder what you should do?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Inspector General (OIG) is committed to protecting HUD's programs and taxpayers' dollars from unscrupulous individuals and corporations who take advantage of the housing programs administered by HUD.

OIG staffs a Hotline. The Hotline is the proper vehicle of communication for reporting instances of fraud, waste, abuse, or gross mismanagement in HUD or HUD-funded programs. The Hotline coordinates reviews of these reports with OIG auditors and investigators or with HUD program offices. The Hotline is staffed by OIG employees who are familiar with HUD programs and OIG audit and investigative requirements.

By reporting misuse of HUD-funded programs you are helping HUD's Secretary to ensure the integrity of HUD's programs by reporting suspected fraud, waste, abuse or gross mismanagement in HUD programs or operations to:

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING
Certain programs in HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) have long been a source of concern that OIG and others have not only reported on over the years, but have resisted correction. To better leverage our body of work regarding these areas of concern, OIG is focusing its work products to spotlight long standing issues to identify and develop solutions. This “Pathway to Improvement” will not only focus OIG attention on these areas but will form the foundation we use to develop and carry out a set of strategies that HUD and the Congress can use as a clearer path to correct these long-standing issues.

The following are the areas of continuing concern:

- Ethics/Governance Structure
- Housing Quality Standards
- Improper Payments
- Movement of Poorly Performing Executive Directors and other Officials from one PHA to Another
- Moving to Work
- PIH Program Oversight and Enforcement
- Procurement and Contracting
- Questionable/Ineffective Use of Administrative Funds
- Receiverships
- The goal is to foster positive change that will improve the management of the nation's public and assisted housing and ultimately the lives of the people who benefit from these programs. This will be a long term and continuing process that will require HUD to put forth innovative solutions. The OIG is ready to assist where appropriate. However, the PHAs themselves and the organizations that represent them can play a critical role in addressing many of these concerns. Working together, we can all help to solve many of these recurring problems.
ENTERPRISE INCOME VERIFICATION (EIV)

By
Martha E. Murillo
Public Housing Revitalization Specialist/
EIV Subject Matter Expert/PIC Coach
Los Angeles Field Office of Public Housing
(213) 534-2611  Fax (213) 894-8125

PHA User Administrators
✓ Will be certified by San Francisco Office of Public Housing.
✓ Are required to certify all EIV users at your PHA (excluding those users who are assigned the role of PHA User Administrator).
✓ Ensure that there are at least 2 people assigned the PHA User Administrator role. The only exception is if you consider a small PHA, e.g., 250 units of PH and Sec 8.

If you need assistance with the certification process, please contact your EIV Coordinator at the San Francisco Office of Public Housing. (Carroll Lorbett can be reached at 415 489-6433 or CarrollJ.Lorbett@hud.gov)

Notes from Martha

PHA EIV User Administrators:

EIV user certification is due by 10/29/2014

Failure to certify users by 11:59PM, EDT on 10/29/2014, will result in termination of EIV access at 12:00AM, EDT on 10/30/2014.

EIV User Group

Did you enjoy the September 26 training? Do you still have more questions you would like answered? Would you like the opportunity to discuss EIV issues with other PHAs? If so, send an e-mail to Trevor.T.Auser@hud.gov

Trevor is a problem solver and would like to work and discuss with you how to make the EIV process run more smoothly. The solution is an EIV User Group.

TRAINING

EIV HQ has not scheduled any training for FY 2014 nor announced training for FY2015. Training for prospective EIV users training can be satisfied by completing the PIH Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) Webcasts at HUD’s webpage:

SECURITY TRAINING can be satisfied by going to http://iatraining.disa.mil/eta/cyberchallenge/launchpage.htm

EIV TRAINING, SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE OF PUBLIC HOUSING

San Francisco EIV training was successfully completed on Friday, September 26. We had originally prepared for no more than 18 – 22 participants for the one day training. We did not advertise. I had selected several housing authorities (HAs) to participate. However, when word got out that Beth Campbell and Kara Maguire would be presenting EIV training, registration requests quickly surpassed what I had intended. Registrations were still being accepted late Thursday afternoon!

Participants’ evaluations, though few, were enthusiastic. Areas to improve were identified: (1) more hands on computer time to solve database issues and (2) provide handouts of the presentations as it would be a good source of reference material.

From the presenters’ point of view, the participants were actively involved in the workshop. Learning was really occurring. It was indeed a great learning opportunity! CJL, EIV Field Office Coordinator
There are several people I need to thank for their continuous support of EIV training. **Joseph Villarreal**, Executive Director, Contra Costa Housing Authority and **Barbara Kauss**, Executive Director, San Joaquin Housing Director. Both have shared their valuable resources both in providing personnel and furnishing training space. Both executive directors are commended for their generous support of HUD’s effort to provide quality EIV training to the public housing community. I thank you for your willingness to support HUD’s effort and by doing so, ensure that more eligible families are able to participate in public housing and voucher programs.

I owe a great debt to all the presenters for making this a quality workshop: **Elizabeth Campbell**, Director of Asset Management, Contra Costa HA; **Kara Maguire**, Administrative Analyst, San Joaquin HA; **Trevor Auser**, EIV Field Coordinator; and, **Sarah Glover-Johnson**, PIC Coach.

Pictures provided by Norma Ocasio, Pittsburg HA.
Inventory Management System (IMS)/ PIH Information Center (PIC)

Correcting Data Anomalies

We have all discovered data errors or things we need to be changed in our Building & Unit ("B&U") data from time to time. Some things can be changed by HA Users, some must be done by HUD Field Office Users, and a few must be done by HUD Superusers (users with special training and greater access to the system).

There are two categories of changes: (1) Errors in the data that were never true. (2) Modifications or updates made to the data as time passes.

For example, if the street address is entered incorrectly, that is an error and it must be corrected. On the other hand, suppose the city renames a street to honor someone. That is an update because the situation has changed. We delete duplicate entries made in error and correct other kinds of errors. We do not delete developments, buildings, or units that are no longer being used or are being disposed of. We remove them from the active inventory by marking them as removed from inventory. That way we retain a record of what was true before.

To change asset management assignments of buildings to different development numbers, GOTO “Asset Management Changes” (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/systems/pic/bu)

Public Housing Environmental and Conservation Clearinghouse

Smoke Free Public Housing
Since 2009, the Office of Public and Indian Housing has encouraged PHAs to adopt smoke free housing policies in some or all of their buildings. The elimination of second or third hand smoke that can migrate between multifamily units can be an important step towards improving the health of residents as well as reducing maintenance costs for PHAs.

HUD policy and regulations are set forth in HUD NOTICE: PIH-2012-25 Issued: May 29, 2012

HUD Releases Guide for Establishing Smoke-Free Policies

HUD recently released Change is in the Air, an action guide for voluntarily establishing smoke-free policies in public housing and HUD-assisted multifamily housing. Encouraging smoke-free housing is part of a nationwide Healthy Homes effort involving coordination among federal agencies to address housing-related health hazards.

HUD issued a Federal Register notice on October 4, 2012 asking for public comment regarding how HUD could continue to support implementation of smoke-free policies (see Memo, 10/5/12). A summary of comments are included in an appendix to the guide. HUD has strongly encouraged public housing agencies and multifamily owners to voluntarily adopt smoke-free policies at some or all of their properties.

In the action guide, nine public housing or multifamily staff provides brief descriptions of their experiences establishing and carrying out smoke-free policies. Four of the nine indicate that residents either were in favor of smoke-free policies or had no problem with it. Five discuss enforcement efforts. The guide recommends steps to take when considering adopting, implementing, and enforcing a smoke-free policy. Resident-oriented steps suggested include surveying residents, providing a draft smoke-free policy for resident comment, and focusing on vulnerable residents, such as those who are elderly or who have disabilities.

Change is in the Air is at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=SMOKEFREEACTIONGUIDE.PDF

An October 17 Memorandum from Benjamin Metcalf, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing Programs announcing the guide is at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=Smoke_Free_Memo.pdf
HUD AND VA TEAM UP TO HELP MORE THAN 9,000 HOMELESS VETERANS FIND PERMANENT HOMES

HUD-VASH vouchers to build on national effort to end veteran homelessness

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced more than $62 million to help more than 9,000 homeless veterans find permanent supportive housing. The rental assistance announced today is provided through the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program which combines rental assistance from HUD with case management and clinical services provided by VA. See the local impact of the housing assistance announced today.

HUD is awarding $57 million to support 8,276 Tenant-Based Vouchers for rental units in the private market, and $5 million for 730 Project-Based Vouchers (PBV) for existing units or new construction in specific developments.

With HUD approaching its 50th anniversary next year, Secretary Julián Castro is focused on advancing policies that create opportunities for all Americans, including the broader Administration goal of ending homelessness among veterans. As First Lady Michelle Obama said in a Joining Forces speech in July 2014, “As Americans, the idea that anyone who has worn our country’s uniform spends their nights sleeping on the ground should horrify us. And so it is truly our duty to right this wrong and put an end to homelessness once and for all.”

HUD-VASH is an Obama effort to provide services to veterans experiencing homelessness that Continuum of Care VA’s Supportive Families (SSVF).

“VASH is an important part of the Administration’s critical housing and experiencing that after their too many of our ourselves living on our shelters,” said Castro. “We’ve progress reducing among veterans by a years, and these continue to help on these gains, assistance to those veteran and for all.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Authority</th>
<th>Partnering VA Med Ctr</th>
<th># Vouchers</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C&amp;C San Francisco SF VA Med Ctr</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>$1,173,309</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contra Costa County VA NoCA Health Care System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresno City VA Central CA Health Care System</td>
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<td>Sacramento County VA NoCA Health Care System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alameda County VA Palo Alto Health Care System</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Oakland VA NoCA Health Care System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Placer VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System</td>
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<td>$94,844</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rgl Sutter &amp; Nv Counties VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$55,948</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roseville VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System</td>
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<td>San Mateo County VA Palo Alto Health Care System</td>
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<td>Santa Clara County VA Palo Alto Health Care System</td>
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<td>Santa Cruz County VA Palo Alto Health Care System</td>
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<td>Santa Rosa City SF VA Med Ctr</td>
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<td>Stanislaus County VA Palo Alto Health Care System</td>
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<td>Vallejo City VA NoCA Health Care System</td>
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<td>Yolo County VA NoCA Health Care System</td>
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<td><strong>$6,664,887</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Welcoming the progress made with HUD and local partners under the leadership of President Obama, VA Secretary Robert McDonald added, “As long as there remains a single veteran living on our streets, there is more work to be done. HUD-VASH vouchers are a vital tool in our efforts to reduce veteran homelessness.”

“Through the HUD-VASH program, communities are making historic progress toward ending homelessness by connecting veterans who have the most intensive service needs to the foundation of a home with supportive services,” said Laura Green Zeilinger, Executive Director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. “The grant awards announced today add crucial resources to this effort, helping to deliver on the promise that every Veteran who has served America has a home in America.”

Last month, HUD, VA and USICH released a new national estimate of veteran homelessness in the United States. In January of 2013, thousands of cities and counties across the country reported 49,933 homeless veterans, a decline of 33 percent (or 24,837 people) since 2010. This includes a nearly 40 percent drop in the number of unsheltered veterans sleeping on the street.
Since 2008, more than 59,000 vouchers have been awarded and over 74,000 homeless veterans have been served through the HUD-VASH program. Rental assistance and support services provided through HUD-VASH are a critical resource for local communities in ending homelessness among our nation’s veterans.

Additionally, **Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness** serves as a roadmap for how the federal government will work with state and local communities to confront the root causes of homelessness, especially among former servicemen and women. As evidence of that commitment, President Obama has asked for an additional $75 million for HUD-VASH vouchers to serve veterans experiencing homelessness in his fiscal year 2015 budget request to Congress.

In the HUD-VASH program, VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) assess veterans experiencing homelessness before referring them to local housing agencies for these vouchers. Decisions are based on a variety of factors, most importantly the duration of homelessness and the need for longer term, more intensive support in obtaining and maintaining permanent housing. The HUD-VASH program includes both the rental assistance the voucher provides and the comprehensive case management that VAMC staff offers.

Veterans participating in the HUD-VASH program rent privately owned housing and generally contribute no more than 30 percent of their income toward rent. VA offers eligible homeless veterans clinical and supportive services through its medical centers across the U.S., Guam and Puerto Rico.

**HUD OFFERS $24 MILLION TO HELP LOW-INCOME PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS SECURE HIGHER PAYING JOBS**

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HUD Secretary Julián Castro announced the available funding during a walking tour of a Central Falls, Rhode Island neighborhood.

“HUD is always looking for innovative ways to help families secure new opportunities and reach their full potential,” said Secretary Castro. “This funding uses housing as a platform for success by linking public housing residents with the resources they need to access better paying jobs. HUD has a unique role to play in helping folks better their lives. In addition to helping folks secure decent, affordable housing, we are committed to ensuring that their housing serves as a springboard to success.”

With HUD approaching its 50th anniversary next year, Secretary Castro is focused on advancing policies that create opportunities for all Americans by creating jobs.

The Jobs-Plus Pilot Program capitalizes on a successful demonstration program that combines traditional employment, training and job placement services with a rent incentive and a place-based investment in building “community support for work.” The program model, which requires PHAs to partner with Department of Labor American Jobs Centers promotes initiatives to improve employment and earnings outcomes, a critical element of self-sufficiency for all families. Targeting an entire development helps residents support each other through the process.

**Jobs Plus Pilot Program**

This Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announces the availability of funding of approximately $24 million for the Jobs Plus Pilot program for Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) to develop locally-based approaches to increase earnings and advance employment outcomes for Public Housing residents. The NOFA will fund initiatives to improve employment and earnings outcomes for Public Housing residents through supports such as work readiness, employer linkages, job placement and financial literacy. Of the $24 million available, $9 million is made available from the ROSS appropriations to support the services element of the Jobs-Plus Pilot program.
Funding Opportunity Number: FR-5800-N-24
Opportunity Title: Jobs Plus Pilot Program
Competition ID: JPP-24
CFDC No.: 14.895
OMB Approval Numbers: 2577-0281 exp. 10/31/2017
Deadline Date: December 17, 2014

CONTACT INFORMATION: HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFA. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications. Questions regarding specific program requirements should be directed to the point of contact listed below. Anice Chenault, JobsPlus@hud.gov HUD will make available FAQs and/or a webcast regarding the Jobs Plus NOFA; any such information will be available at HUD’s Fund's Available or on the NOFA-specific page that may be accessed from that page. Applicants may also check HUD's webcast page. Following selection, but prior to award, HUD staff will be available to assist in clarifying or confirming information that is a prerequisite to the offer of an award by HUD.

U.S. Urges AIG, MGIC to Back Fastest-Growing VA Loans (Bloomberg)
Bloomberg
(10/28/2014 3:41 AM, Jody Shenn and Zachary Tracer)
Private insurers are considering a request by U.S. officials to guarantee mortgages for veterans -- the fastest growing part of the market.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is urging mortgage insurers that rely on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac for business to offer supplemental protection for lenders to military members and veterans. Only 25 percent of VA loan amounts are backed by the Department of Veterans Affairs -- a limit that keeps some firms from fully participating in the program, Ginnie Mae President Ted Tozer said.

As soldiers returned to America after more than 2.6 million served overseas since 2001, and the cost of Federal Housing Administration insurance jumped, the VA share of home lending has soared, accounting for almost 9 percent in the second quarter, at least a 20-year high. Insurers including American International Group Inc. (AIG) and MGIC Investment Corp. (MTG) are looking at these loans as their role in the mortgage market expands.

“It’s something I’m definitely interested in exploring,” Donna DeMaio, who runs AIG’s United Guaranty mortgage-insurance unit, said in an interview at a Mortgage Bankers Association conference last week. “I’m really interested in new ways we can help produce access to credit.”

The 25 percent cap on VA insurance “leaves a lot of small lenders awfully exposed and reluctant to offer veterans credit under this initiative,” HUD Secretary Julian Castro said during his speech at the conference in Las Vegas. Getting another layer of protection would make them “feel confident when offering these loans -- giving more of our nation’s heroes a chance to buy a home in the country they risked everything to protect.”

NOTICE PIH-2014-10
Issued: April 30, 2014

This notice informs all public housing agencies (PHAs) about their responsibilities for safeguarding personally identifiable information (PII) required by HUD and preventing potential breaches of this sensitive data. HUD is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals’ information stored electronically or in paper form, in accordance with federal privacy laws, guidance, and best practices. HUD expects its third party business partners, including Public Housing Authorities, who collect, use, maintain, or disseminate HUD information to protect the privacy of that information in accordance with applicable law.
Sharing Good News!

Roseville Housing Authority celebrated its 40th anniversary on October 1st. Mayor Susan Rohan presented a resolution to the housing authority enumerating its numerous successes which have significantly contributed to the quality of community life in Roseville and to the economic success of the community. Some of those successes include the 90 families who completed the Family Self Sufficiency Program and the nearly one third of those families who purchased homes; the providing important social service to the region by offering opportunities for safe, decent, and affordable housing while providing a high level of customer service. As of result of its outstanding performance HUD has designated this housing authority as a high performer for the past 10 years.

Assistant Director Chris Robles and former Assistant Director, John Sprague, took the opportunity to praise the housing authority’s employees for their dedication to the goals of the housing authority and their commitment to the community.

A recent graduate of the FSS Program, Roy Chirigotis, who recently purchased a home, spoke of the opportunity given to him by program and staff profound effect on result of the FSS. Roseville Housing Chirigotis stated his family not only life circumstances but have a real future. He thanked those who offered him a hand up not a hand out.

Nancy Cox, Housing Analyst, acknowledged the excellent work and dedication of staff and expressed appreciation to the Resident Advisory Board members. Certificates of Appreciation were shared with them. Ms. Cox, stated, “It was a great opportunity to stop, reflect and acknowledge what we have accomplished.”

During her remarks Ms. Cox read an excerpt from an email she received that day from a participant that is withdrawing from the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP which stated in part: “You have been very helpful and really great to work with. I appreciate everything this program has allowed me to accomplish as a single parent. I was able to move through the company and will be running a whole division in just a few short months once the merger is complete and will be able to take care of things on my own. And I honestly couldn’t have given my four children a home of their own over these past years without this program. Thank your whole team for me!!

Congratulations Roseville Housing Authority for a job well done!

More Good News

New addition to San Francisco Public Housing

The San Francisco Office of Public Housing welcomes a new employee. Her name is Talitha Pope. (She prefers to be called “Tai,” sounds like “Ty” a family nickname.) Tai comes to us from HUD’s Boston office where she has been employed for the past 3 years as a Financial Analyst and a Public Housing Revitalization Specialist.

Tai has an appreciation for the work environment at housing authorities. Before coming to HUD, Tai worked at Providence Housing Authority (HA) in Rhode Island, a large HA. For 5 years, she was a Special Projects Manager. A significant part of her duties was to apply for grant funding for various projects and programs benefitting the community. Once the funding was secured, Tai was responsible for implementing the program. This effort allowed her the opportunity to work with and develop community partnerships.

Tai received her BA and M.Ed. from Providence College in Rhode Island.

On a personal note, Tai and her husband have 2 babies – 16 month old, Reagan, and 4 months old, Tai and future HUD-ite???
Van. Tai says, “They are exactly a year apart and they even have the same birthday. ‘Can’t win the lottery but can do that! The odds are playing a joke on me I think.”

Contact information for Tai is Talitha.M.Pope@hud.gov and telephone number, (415) 489-6438.

We look forward to Tai joining the San Francisco Public Housing Team! ☑

New Director for City of Alameda HA

Welcome to Vanessa Cooper who is the new the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the City of Alameda (Alameda Housing Authority or AHA).

Ms. Cooper has extensive experience in the housing community. Prior to joining AHA, Vanessa served as the Real Estate Services Director for the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara. Her responsibilities included development, construction, asset management, property management, maintenance, compliance, and resident services for almost 3000 affordable Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) housing units. In addition, Vanessa also works for NeighborWorks America as faculty for their asset management program and has provided technical assistance consulting on community development programs.

Vanessa previously worked for Charities Housing Development Corporation, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County and for the Bank of England.

Vanessa has a BA from Bath University (UK), an MBA from Durham University (UK) and an MA from San Jose State University. Vanessa attended Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government as a Fannie Mae fellow in the State and Local Officials program.

Vanessa’s experience includes providing housing and services for seniors, families, migrant workers, and special needs populations, including the chronically homeless, disabled and domestic violence victims. She also has a long history of working with immigrants and refugees.

Vanessa is a California licensed real estate broker and is a Certified Housing Asset Manager, Certified Section 8 Executive Manager and is tax credit certified. Vanessa served on the NAHRO’s National Housing Committee as well as participating in various housing and community organizations in the

ALL THINGS VOUCHERS

Office of Housing Choice Vouchers

DID YOU KNOW?

USE OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (HAP) RESERVES TO REMEDY SUBSIDY UNDERPAYMENTS

Q: Do HUD regulations allow a PHA to use Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) reserves to remedy an underpayment of subsidy?

A: Current calendar year budget authority cannot be used to cover a prior year HAP expense. From this rule, the voucher programs office has stated that HAP NRA may be used to correct certain prior year subsidy underpayment errors provided sufficient HAP Net Restricted Assets (NRA) was available at the time the error was made. So, if a review indicates sufficient HAP NRA was available at the time the underpayment occurred, then available NRA can be used to pay the increased HAP expenses that will be incurred as the error is corrected. The VMS entries must be changed to reflect the use of funds (existing HAP NRA) to make those corrected payments. ☑
On September 28, 2007, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a report on over subsidization in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program due to the issuance of vouchers with unit sizes greater than the number of family members in the household. As a result, the OIG recommended HUD issue clarifying guidance on (1) the matter of categorization of live-in aides, (2) other reasonable accommodation issues and (3) corresponding data entry into the Inventory Management System (IMS)/Public and Indian Housing Information Center (PIC) through the following notices: Notice PIH 2010-51 extended and revised Notice PIH 2009-22 to explain subsidy standards in regard to live-in aides and their PHA-approved family member/s and data entry in IMS/PIC for family members of live-in aides.

On September 23, 2013, the OIG issued a follow-up report in which the OIG noted that vast improvement had been made, but problems continued to exist. The OIG concluded that this condition continues because HUD had made few data analytic tools available to public housing agencies to help detect and monitor over subsidized households, improper payment standards, and reporting errors. Based on its review of public housing agencies, the OIG estimated that more than $1.1 million in excess subsidy payments was not available for other households seeking housing choice voucher assistance.

The OIG recommend that the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Housing and Voucher Programs provide guidance to the authorities on the data analytic tools available and the specific procedures to help detect and monitor over subsidized households, improper payment standards, and reporting errors to put at least $1.1 million to better use annually.

Notice PIH 2014-25 (HA) issued October 16, 2014 (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=PIH2014-25MarkupOversub.pdf) provides the recommended guidance. The notice identifies hoc reports in the IMS/PIC system that can be used for monitoring the factors that would indicate over subsidization and other improper payments and programmatic explanations pertaining to: (1) live-in aides, (2) reasonable accommodations issues, (3) subsidy standards, and (4) medical equipment. Also addressed is the failure of the PHAs to change the voucher unit size after changes in family composition have occurred. PHAs are expected to ensure that data on the Family Report is correct when entered in IMS/PIC.

HUD-VASH Vouchers

The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics.

Every year since 2008, HUD and VA have awarded HUD-VASH vouchers based on geographic need and public housing agency (PHA) administrative performance. The allocation process for HUD-VASH vouchers is a collaborative approach that relies on three sets of data: HUD’s point-in-time data submitted by Continuums of Care (CoCs), VAMC data on the number of contacts with homeless Veterans, and performance data from PHAs and VAMCs. After determining which areas of the country have the highest number of homeless Veterans, the VA Central Office identifies VA facilities in the corresponding communities. HUD then selects PHAs near to the identified VA facilities, taking into consideration the PHAs’ administrative performance, and sends the PHAs invitations to apply for the vouchers. There is at least one site in each of the 50 states, in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam.

HUD has awarded funding for approximately 10,000 HUD-VASH vouchers each year in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2014. In 2011, $50 million was appropriated to serve approximately 7,000 voucher families. In addition, HUD held two competitions, one in 2010 and one in 2014, set-aside to competitively award a total of over 2200 project-based HUD-VASH vouchers. Since 2008, a total of 68,020 vouchers have been awarded.
Generally, the HUD-VASH program is administered in accordance with regular HCV program requirements (24 CFR Section 982). However, the 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 110-161) allows HUD to waive or specify alternative requirements for any provision of any statute or regulation affecting the HCV program in order to effectively deliver and administer HUD-VASH voucher assistance. The alternative requirements are established in the HUD-VASH Operating Requirements (including the waivers and alternative requirements from HCV program rules), which were published in the Federal Register on May 6, 2008. The operating requirements, notices related to HUD-VASH, and other helpful tools and resources are provided in the sections below.

**RELATED NOTICES AND GUIDANCE**


- **HUD-VASH Operating Requirements [http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-03-23/pdf/2012-7081.pdf]**: This notice establishes the policies and procedures for the administration for the administration of tenant-based HCV rental assistance under the HUD-VASH program. In this second version of the HUD-VASH Operating Requirements published on March 23, 2012, HUD provides new and clarifying guidance on verification documentation, the addition of family members after the veteran is a participant in the HCV program, PHA termination of assistance, portability moves, reallocation of HUD-VASH vouchers, and Housing Quality Standards (HQS) initial inspections.

- **Federal Register Notice - June 18, 2014**: Technical correction that allows HUD-VASH families to live on the grounds of a VA facility in units developed to house homeless Veterans (waives 24 CFR 982.352(a)(5) and 983.53(a)(2)).

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS**

Housing assistance for homeless Veterans and their families is available through several Federal programs.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH) partner to provide permanent, supportive housing and treatment services for homeless Veterans.

As of September 30, 2013, HUD had allocated more than 58,000 Housing Choice vouchers across the country, which allows Veterans and their families to live in market rate rental housing while VA provides case management services. A housing subsidy is paid to the landlord directly by the local public housing authority on behalf of the participating Veteran. The Veteran then pays the difference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program. The case management services facilitate the attainment of the Veteran’s recovery goals. The HUD-VASH Program is for the most vulnerable Veterans, and provides special services for women Veterans, those recently returning from combat zones, and Veterans with disabilities.
ELIGIBILITY

VA determines clinical eligibility for the program. The PHA determines if the Veteran participant meets HUD’s regulations for this program. The PHA will determine eligibility based on income limits. Also, the PHA will determine if any member of the household is required to maintain Lifetime Sexual Offender Registry status – those who do are not eligible to participate in this program.

HUD-VASH provides permanent housing for eligible homeless Veterans who are single or eligible homeless Veterans with families. The program is developed for the homeless Veteran, so eligible Veteran families must include the Veteran. Because HUD-VASH provides for Veterans with medical, mental health and/or substance use disorders, eligible Veterans must be able to complete activities of daily living and live independently in the community with case management and supportive services.

To apply for HUD-VASH, please contact your local VA Homeless Program. Veterans can contact the HUD-VASH program directly, or obtain a referral from a case manager in another VA program, from a community program, or other referral sources.

You Fought for Our Home. We’ll Fight for Yours.
If you need housing assistance, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET.

Additional Information can be found at http://www.va.gov/homeless/housing.asp

HOMELESS VETERANS - UPDATE!!

The HUD-VASH RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PERMANENT HOUSING and Clinical Care (http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/Center/144_HUD-VASH_Book_WEB_High_Res_final.pdf ) and the Supplemental Resource Guide Quick Tips was designed to provide case managers, and other who work with homeless Veterans in the HUD-VASH program, with a comprehensive set of resources to assist in addressing the multifaceted needs of homeless Veterans. The Resource Guide is a product of the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans and was developed by a dynamic team of researchers, policy analysts, public health experts, psychologists, physicians and social workers located throughout the country.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development – VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program is a joint effort between HUD and VA to move Veterans and their families out of homelessness and into permanent housing. HUD provides housing assistance through its Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) that allows homeless Veterans to rent privately owned housing. VA offers eligible homeless Veterans clinical and supportive services through its health care system across the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam.

Know that one phone call can be the difference in the life of a Veteran who is homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Make the Call to 877-4AID-VET (424-3838) to be connected 24/7 with VA’s services to overcome or prevent homelessness for yourself or a Veteran you know.
Public and Indian Housing: Ending and Preventing Homelessness

The Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) is committed to working with our PHA partners to expand opportunities for individuals and families to access quality affordable rental homes, thereby achieving HUD’s goal of utilizing housing as a platform for improving quality of life. The HUD Exchange is a compendium of those opportunities.

Presentations and Webinars

- **Ending Homelessness through the Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing Programs** - Staff from PIH present information related to the Notice.

- **PHA 101: A Guide for CoC’s Understanding PHA Programs and Policies** - Staff from PIH give an overview of the basics about PHAs and the programs administered by HUD’s PIH.

- **CoC 101: A Guide for PHA’s Understanding of CoC Functions and Partnerships** - Staff from CPD and the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) present information on the functions of CoCs and opportunities for partnerships.

- **Implementing a Move-Up Strategy** - Staff from PIH and CPD provide an overview of the basics about how to implement a move-up strategy as a joint effort between PHAs and CoCs.

**I want to** (to access hold down CTRL key and point)

- Learn about HOPE VI’s Resources for Community and Supportive Services
- Read SOHUD Letter to PHAs
- Read Notice PIH 2013-15
- Read FAQs
- Read Opening Doors
- Read HUD’s 2012 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness
- Learn about HUD-VASH
- Read the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition (HEARTH) to Housing: Defining "Homeless" Final Rule

**Resources** (to access hold down CTRL key and point)

- Visit CPD’s Homelessness Webpage
- PIH Notice 2013-15 and FAQs
- National Alliance to End Homelessness
- HUD’s Homelessness Resource Exchange
- HUD’s Continuum of Care
- USICH’s PHA Guidebook to Ending Homelessness

*Know that one phone call can be the difference in the life of a Veteran who is homeless or at imminent*
## Calendar of Due Dates

**Trust but Verify all due dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>HCV</th>
<th>PH</th>
<th>Grants</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>VMS Reporting Opens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Minority Business Development Contract and Subcontract Activity</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moving to Work Plan (12/31 FYE)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Civ Rights Cert (12/31 Qual. PHAs)</td>
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<td>5-Year PHA Plan (12/31 FYE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Annual PHA Plan (12/31 Non-Qualified PHAs)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Capital Fund Program P &amp; E Report (12/31 FYE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Capital Fund Program Annual Statement (12/31 Non-Qualified PHAs First-Time Submission)</td>
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<td>VMS Submissions</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>CY2014 Operating Fund Forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Federal Financial Report for IHBG</td>
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<td>Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) Employee Recertification</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Semi-Annual Labor Standards Enforcement Report-Local Contracting Agencies</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>EPIC Quarterly Reporting</td>
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<td><strong>November 2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Maintenance Wage Rate Recommendation (12/31 FYE)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>VMS Reporting Opens</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Unaudited Extension Request (9/30 FYE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>VMS Submissions</td>
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<td>SEMAP Certification (9/30 FYE)</td>
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<td>Unaudited Due Date (9/30 FYE)</td>
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<td>Waiver of Due Date for Audited Financial Info. (3/31 FYE)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>VMS Reporting Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>VMS Submissions</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>IHBG Funds Annual Performance Report (9/30 FYE)</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Audited Due Date (3/31 FYE)</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Submit Board Resolutions Approving Operating Budget (12/31 FYE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Moving to Work Report (9/30 FYE)</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Notif. of Turnover of FUP Vouchers</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>FYE Change Request Due (3/31 FYE)</td>
<td>X</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**Are you in need of the 2014 VMS manual?**


Questions? E-mail ngms@hud.gov
2014 Notices, Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Public Housing

Overview:
Below is a list of PIH notices which provide guidance, extensions, instructions, clarifications, announcements and other policy information. The notices are also available on HUDclips. Note: HUD announces the end to hard copy mailing of PIH Notices. Notices will be available electronically only and posted on this website.


To access a notice, point to the notice number and click or hold down the ctrl key and point to notice number and click.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notice</th>
<th>Issued/Expires</th>
<th>Subject/Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PIH 2014-26 (HA)</td>
<td>Issued: Oct. 21, 2014 Expires: This notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded</td>
<td>Asset Building and Financial Literacy Resources - This Notice outlines guidance to inform public housing agencies (PHAs) and other housing providers about financial literacy tools and resources available to help HUD-assisted families enhance their financial literacy and asset building skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIH 2014-25 (HA)</td>
<td>Issued: Oct. 16, 2014 Expires: This notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded</td>
<td>Over Subsidization in the Housing Choice Voucher Program - On September 28, 2007, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a report on over subsidization in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program due to the issuance of vouchers with unit sizes greater than the number of family members in the household. Pursuant to the recommendation of the OIG, the Department issued clarifying guidance on the matter of categorization of live-in aides, other reasonable accommodation issues and corresponding data entry into the Inventory Management System (IMS)/Public and Indian Housing Information Center (PIC) through the notices cited above. Notice PIH 2010-51 extended and revised Notice PIH 2009-22 to explain subsidy standards in regard to live-in aides and their PHA-approved family member/s and data entry in IMS/PIC for family members of live-in aides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIH 2014-24 (HA)</td>
<td>Issued: Sept. 23, 2014 Expires: This notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded</td>
<td>Process for Public Housing Agency Voluntary Transfers and Consolidations of the Public Housing Program - The purpose of this notice is (1) to provide guidance specific to how HUD will process requests for the voluntary transfer of Public Housing programs, developments, and units between two or more PHAs or the voluntary consolidation of the Public Housing programs of two or more PHAs; and (2) to provide submission requirements and processing instructions for such requests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIH 2014-23</td>
<td>Issued: Sept. 17, 2014 Expires: This notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded</td>
<td>Set-Aside Funding Availability for Project-Basing HUD-VASH Vouchers - The purpose of this notice is to announce additional awards under Notice PIH 2014-3 (Set-Aside Funding Availability for Project-Basing HUD-VASH Vouchers). The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (the 2014 Act) (Public Law 113-76) enacted January 17, 2014, provided $75 million for HUD-VASH vouchers as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937. With the broad flexibility provided under the 2014 Act, the Department has decided to fund an additional 22 PHAs under Notice PIH 2014-13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIH 2014-20 (HA)</td>
<td>Issued: August 20, 2014 Expires: This notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded</td>
<td>Program Eligibility Regardless of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Marital Status as Required by HUD’s Equal Access Rule - On February 3, 2012, HUD published a final rule entitled Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (77 FR 5662) (“Equal Access Rule” or “rule”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIH 2014-19</td>
<td>Issued: August 19, 2014 Expires: This notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded</td>
<td>Public Housing Operating Subsidy Eligibility Calculations for Calendar Year 2015 - This notice provides public housing agencies (PHAs) with instructions for the calculation of operating subsidy eligibility in Calendar Year (CY) 2015.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>