



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Public and Indian Housing

Mainstream Voucher Program

FR-6300-N-43

Application Due Date: 09/05/2019

Mainstream Voucher Program  
FR-6300-N-43  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. [Funding Opportunity Description.](#)
- II. [Award Information.](#)
- III. [Eligibility.](#)
  - A. Eligible Applicants.
  - B. Ineligible Applicants.
  - C. Cost Sharing or Matching.
  - D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements.
  - E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.
  - F. Program-Specific Requirements Affecting Eligibility.
  - G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.
- IV. [Application and Submission Information.](#)
  - A. Obtaining an Application Package.
  - B. Content and Form of Application Submission.
  - C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number.
  - D. Application Submission Dates and Times.
  - E. Intergovernmental Review.
  - F. Funding Restrictions.
  - G. Other Submission Requirements.
- V. [Application Review Information.](#)
  - A. Review Criteria.
  - B. Review and Selection Process.
- VI. [Award Administration Information.](#)
  - A. Award Notices.
  - B. Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements for HUD recipients.
  - C. Reporting.
  - D. Debriefing.
- VII. [Agency Contacts.](#)
- VIII. [Other Information.](#)
- IX. [Appendix.](#)

## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

<b>Program Office:</b>	Public and Indian Housing
<b>Funding Opportunity Title:</b>	Mainstream Voucher Program
<b>Announcement Type:</b>	Initial
<b>Funding Opportunity Number:</b>	FR-6300-N-43
<b>Primary CFDA Number:</b>	14.879
<b>Due Date for Applications:</b>	<b>09/05/2019</b>

### Overview

Prospective applicants should carefully read all instructions in all sections to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible application. HUD funding is highly competitive. Failure to respond accurately to any submission requirement could result in an incomplete or noncompetitive proposal.

HUD is prohibited from disclosing 1) information regarding any applicant's relative standing, 2) the amount of assistance requested by an applicant, and 3) any information contained in the application. Prior to the application deadline, HUD may not disclose the identity of any applicant or the number of applicants that have applied for assistance.

**For Further Information Regarding this NOFA:** Please direct questions regarding the specific program requirements of this Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to the office contact identified in Section VII.

OMB Approval Number(s): 2577-0169

### Paperwork Reduction Act.

## I. Funding Opportunity Description.

### A. Program Description.

#### 1. Purpose.

##### a. Overview

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 made approximately \$385 million available for new mainstream vouchers. On September 4, 2018, HUD awarded more than \$98 million to qualified applicants through FR-6100-N-43. Through a future award process, HUD plans to award additional mainstream vouchers to those PHAs who were funded through FR-6100-N-43 and this NOFA (FR-6300-N-43) based on performance including utilization.

While not a requirement to receive funding under this NOFA, HUD will provide additional points for public housing agencies (PHAs) that target funds to assist non-elderly persons with disabilities who are transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, currently experiencing homelessness, previously experienced homelessness and currently a client in a permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing

project, or those at risk of experiencing homelessness. In addition, points will be awarded for PHAs that formalize partnerships with and leverage resources from State Medicaid Agencies and various health and human services partner agencies or organizations.

Targeting resources to assist eligible persons with disabilities and their families who are transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings or at serious risk of institutionalization will help further the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). One critical goal under the ADA is to ensure services, programs, and activities by public entities are provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of individuals with disabilities, as affirmed by the Supreme Court in the *Olmstead* decision (and settlements and decrees implementing *Olmstead*). This NOFA will offer vouchers to provide sustained community-based integrated housing opportunities to non-elderly persons with disabilities.

Targeting resources to assist eligible persons with disabilities and their families who are currently experiencing homelessness, have previously experienced homelessness, or at risk of experiencing homelessness supports the goals of [Home Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#).

## **b. Policy Priorities**

This NOFA adopts the following policy priorities:

1. Leverage coordination with state Medicaid agencies, health and human services agencies, homelessness assistance providers, including Continuums of Care, in the identification and prioritization of eligible families;
2. Mobilize vouchers in alignment with other state and local priorities to advance *Olmstead* compliance; to successfully integrate non-elderly persons with disabilities who are in institutional or other segregated settings or are at risk of institutionalization into communities; and/or to prevent and end homelessness among non-elderly persons with disabilities.

## **c. Partnerships**

Although PHAs may provide vouchers to any eligible non-elderly person with a disability, the NOFA review process awards more points to those PHAs that set up partnerships and preferences for eligible persons that are transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, currently experiencing homelessness, previously experienced homelessness and currently a client in a permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing project, or those at risk of experiencing homelessness. Partnerships are encouraged but not required.

Applicants are encouraged to establish formal partnerships with multiple health and human service agencies or organizations with a demonstrated capacity to coordinate voluntary services and supports to enable individuals to live independently in the community. PHA partnerships with organizations that administer the community's Coordinated Entry System is also encouraged. These partnerships should assist the PHA to use these vouchers by providing referrals, assisting with a timely transition to a unit, providing the opportunity to access any supportive services and supports, and helping with the housing search and leasing process. Demonstrated capacity may refer to previous experience and a well-developed plan to provide referrals, services, and supports, such as organizations participating in a state-wide *Olmstead*

plan to assist obtaining integrated housing throughout the community, in the [Money Follows the Person](#) demonstration to assist transitions from institutional to community settings, or in implementing a state or local plan to prevent and end homelessness.

A well-developed plan would align with any existing state *Olmstead* plan, the community's plan to prevent and end homelessness, and any other existing state plans for housing/community living for persons with disabilities, and detail how the partnerships will function to provide outreach and referrals, transition services, tenancy support, and other services and supports. Applicants with no significant previous experience with these types of partnerships may also meet these requirements by detailing the specified plan above and documented efforts and intention to establish these types of partnerships.

In addition to receiving referrals from partner agencies, the PHA must allow non-elderly persons with disabilities to apply directly to the program without going through a partner agency. There is no limit to the number of agencies a PHA may partner with for referrals and supportive services.

## **2. Changes from Previous NOFA.**

The previous NOFA for Mainstream Voucher Program funding (FR-6100-N-43) was issued in 2018.

1. Added Statement of Need – This NOFA requires that the PHA provide a Statement of Need as a part of HUD-52515 to adequately demonstrate the need for Mainstream vouchers in the PHA's jurisdiction, which is not being met through other known programs, by indicating the number of vouchers projected to be needed to assist non-elderly persons with disabilities over a 12-month period.
2. Target population - While the eligible recipients of Mainstream vouchers remain the same, this NOFA adds additional targeted groups to include eligible persons who previously experienced homelessness and are currently a client in a permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing project. This change will allow for PHAs participating in a Moving On program to receive points under rating factor 3. Admissions Preference.
3. Streamlined application requirements - The narrative portion of the application has been replaced with certifications to reduce the burden on the PHA. The Partner Agency Capacity rating factor was removed from this NOFA. Rating Factor "1a. PHA Capacity and Demonstrated Commitment to Provide Housing for Persons with Disabilities" was renamed "1. Prior Experience Assisting Persons with Disabilities". Rating Factor "2. Leveraging Resources" was renamed "4. Program Resources". Rating Factor 1 is meant to evaluate the PHA's previous experience and commitment, whereas, Rating Factor 4 is meant to capture resources that have been leveraged from partner agencies as well as resources available within the PHA to support the Mainstream Voucher Program and ensure the vouchers are effectively utilized.
4. Removed Geographic Jurisdiction rating factor – The geographic jurisdiction rating factor in the previous NOFA provided additional points to PHAs that operated a state-wide program, allowed for immediate portability prior to leasing up in the PHA's jurisdiction, or for PHAs that operated regionally or established agreements to expand their jurisdiction. These categories are difficult to define and the rating factor caused confusion among applicants. PHAs may still

partner to apply for Mainstream vouchers. One PHA must be the main applicant. The main applicant may list other PHAs as partners on form HUD-52515 and include their formal agreement in Attachment 3.

### **3. Definitions.**

#### **a. Standard Definitions**

**Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Regulations.** Statutory obligation to affirmatively further the purposes and policies of the Fair Housing Act and guidance promulgated thereunder.

**Assurances.** By submitting your application, you provide assurances that, if selected to receive an award, you will comply with U.S. statutory and public policy requirements, including, but not limited to civil rights requirements.

**Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)** is the person authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Biz point of contact in the System for Award Management. The AOR is listed in item 21 on the SF-424.

**Award**, as used in this NOFA means a federal grant OR cooperative agreement as specified in Section II.E (Type of Funding Instrument).

**Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)** is a directory of the various Federal listings, projects, services and activities offering financial and non-financial assistance and benefits to the American public. CFDA Number is the unique number assigned to each program, project, service or activity listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA).

**Consolidated Plan** is a document developed by states and local jurisdictions. This plan is completed by engaging in a participatory process to assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions with funding from formula grant programs. (See 24 CFR part 91 for more information about the Consolidated Plan and related Annual Action Plan).

**Contract** means a legal instrument by which a non-Federal entity purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. The term as used in this NOFA does not include a legal instrument, even if the non-Federal entity considers it a contract, when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a Federal award or subaward (See 2 CFR 200.22.)

Contractor means an entity receiving a contract.

**Deficiency** is information missing or omitted within a submitted application. Deficiencies typically involve missing documents, information on a form, or some other type of unsatisfied information requirement (e.g., an unsigned form, unchecked box.). Depending on specific criteria, deficiencies may be either curable or non-curable.

- Curable Deficiency – Applicants may correct a curable deficiency with timely action.

To be curable the deficiency must:

- Not be a threshold requirement, except for documentation of applicant eligibility;
  - not influence how an applicant is ranked or scored versus other applicants; and
  - be remedied within the time frame specified in the notice of deficiency.
- Non-Curable Deficiency – An applicant cannot correct a non-curable deficiency after the submission deadline.

Non-curable deficiencies are deficiencies that, if corrected, would change an applicant's score or rank versus other applicants. Non-curable deficiencies may result in an application being marked ineligible, or otherwise adversely affect an application's score and final determination.

**DUNS Number** is the nine-digit identification number assigned to a business or organization by Dun & Bradstreet and provides a means of identifying business entities on a location-specific basis. Requests for a DUNS number can be made by visiting the Online DUNS Request Portal.

**Eligibility requirements** are mandatory requirements for an application to be eligible for funding.

**Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)** is a database that has been established to track contractor misconduct and performance.

**Grants.gov** is the website serving as the Federal government's central portal for searching and applying for federal financial assistance throughout the Federal government. Registration in Grants.gov is required for submission of applications to prospective agencies.

**Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).** -The Higher Education Act of 1965 defines historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) as "any historically Black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation..."

**Institution of Higher Education (IHE)**, has the meaning given at 20 U.S.C. 1001.

**Non-Federal Entity** means a state, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education (IHE), or non-profit organization carrying out a Federal award as a recipient or sub recipient.

**Nongovernmental organizations** include Non-Federal entities and for-profit entities for the purpose of calculating indirect cost proposals accompanying applications submitted under this NOFA.

**Personally identifiable information (PII)** means information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, either alone or when combined with other personal or identifying information that is linked or linkable to a specific individual. The definition of PII is not anchored to any single category of information or technology. Rather, it requires a case-by-case assessment of the specific risk that an individual can be identified. For more detail, refer to 2 CFR 200.79.

**Point of Contact (POC)** is the person who may be contacted with questions about the application submitted by the AOR. The point of contact is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

**Opportunity Zone** according to the IRS, is an “economically-distressed community where new investments, under certain conditions, may be eligible for preferential tax treatment.” Opportunity Zones are further defined in 26 U.S.C. 1400Z.

**Promotores/Promotoras** are Spanish-speaking Community Health Workers who work in their communities to reduce barriers to health services and make health care systems more responsive.

**Recipient** means a non-Federal entity receiving an award directly from HUD to carry out an activity under a HUD program.

**Section 3 Business Concern** means a business concern: (1) 51 percent or more owned by Section 3 residents; (2) of which at least 30 percent of permanent, full-time employees are currently Section 3 residents, or were Section 3 residents within three years of the date of first employment with the business concern; or (3) provides evidence of a commitment to subcontract over 25 percent of the dollar award of all subcontracts to be awarded to business concerns meeting the qualifications in this definition.

**Section 3 Residents** means: 1) Public housing residents; or 2) Low and very-low income persons, as defined in 24 CFR 135.5, who live in the metropolitan area or non-metropolitan county where Section 3 covered assistance is expended.

**Standard Form 424 (SF-424)** means the government-wide forms required to apply for Application for Federal Assistance Programs, required by discretionary Federal grants and other forms of financial assistance programs. Applicants for this Federal assistance program must submit all required forms in the SF-424 Family of forms, including SF-424B. For an application under this notice to be complete, the applicant must sign and submit all required forms in the SF-424 Family.

**Subaward** means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the recipient. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual beneficiary of a Federal program. A



subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract. The legal agreement must contain the subrecipient's assurance of compliance with program requirements, including but not limited to nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements.

**Subrecipient** means a non-Federal entity receiving a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a HUD program; but does not include an individual beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also receive other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency (including HUD).

**System for Award Management (SAM)**, is an official website of the U.S. government. SAM is a U.S. Government system that consolidated the capabilities of Central Contractor Registry (CCR), Excluded Parties List System (EPLS) and the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA). Registration with [Sam.gov](https://sam.gov) is required for submission of applications via Grants.gov. You can access the website at [Sam.gov](https://sam.gov). There is no cost to use SAM.

**Threshold Requirement** – Threshold requirements are a type of eligibility requirement. Threshold requirements must be met for an application to be reviewed; are not curable, except for documentation of applicant eligibility and are listed in Section III.D *Threshold Eligibility Requirements*. Similarly, there are eligibility requirements under Section III.E, *Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility*.

#### **4. Program Definitions.**

*Eligible family*: A family composed of one or more non-elderly person with disabilities, which may include additional members who are not non-elderly persons with disabilities. A family where the sole member is an emancipated minor is not an eligible family.

The terms "disability" and "person with disabilities" are used in two contexts - for civil rights protections, and for program eligibility purposes. Each use has specific definitions. When used in the context of application of Federal civil rights laws and requirements, including the prohibition against discrimination, the civil rights related definitions apply. When used in the context of eligibility under this NOFA, the program eligibility definitions apply.

*Non-elderly person with disabilities (for purposes of determining eligibility)*: A person 18 years of age or older and less than 62 years of age, and who:

- Has a disability, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 423;
- Is determined, pursuant to HUD regulations, to have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that:
- Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
- Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and
- Is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or
- Has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 6001.

*Person with disabilities (for purposes of civil rights)*: see 24 CFR § 8.3; as amended by the

ADA Amendments Act of 2008; 24 CFR § 100.201; 28 CFR §§ 35.104, 108).

*Continuum of Care (CoC)* means the group organized to carry out the responsibilities required under the CoC Program interim rule and that is composed of representatives of organizations, including nonprofit homeless providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, governments, businesses, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, organizations that serve homeless and formerly homeless veterans, and homeless and formerly homeless persons to the extent these groups are represented within the geographic area and are available to participate.

*Rapid rehousing* means time-limited housing assistance in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons rapidly connect to and maintain permanent housing.

**The following definitions are provided as a guide for the purposes of this NOFA, however, PHAs may use applicable local or state definitions if available as long as individuals who fall under these definitions are still eligible.**

*Institutional or other segregated settings* include, but are not limited to: (1) congregate settings populated exclusively or primarily with individuals with disabilities; (2) congregate settings characterized by regimentation in daily activities, lack of privacy or autonomy, policies limiting visitors, or limits on individuals' ability to engage freely in community activities and to manage their own activities of daily living; or (3) settings that provide for daytime activities primarily with other individuals with disabilities.

*At serious risk of institutionalization:* Includes an individual with a disability who as a result of a public entity's failure to provide community services or its cut to such services will likely cause a decline in health, safety, or welfare that would lead to the individual's eventual placement in an institution. This includes individuals experiencing lack of access to supportive services for independent living, long waiting lists for or lack of access to housing combined with community-based services, individuals currently living under poor housing conditions or homeless with barriers to geographic mobility, and/or currently living alone but requiring supportive services for independent living. A person cannot be considered at serious risk of institutionalization unless the person has a disability. An individual may be designated as at serious risk of institutionalization either by a health and human services agency, by a community-based organization, or by self-identification.

*Persons currently experiencing homelessness* means:

(1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
- An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals); or

- An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;

(2) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:

- The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
- No subsequent residence has been identified; and
- The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, needed to obtain other permanent housing;

(3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:

- Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);
- Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;
- Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
- Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities; chronic physical health or mental health conditions; substance addiction; histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect); the presence of a child or youth with a disability; or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or

(4) Any individual or family who:

- Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence;
- Has no other residence; and
- Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, and faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

*At risk of experiencing homeless:* An individual or family who:

(i) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately [available](#) to prevent them from moving to an [emergency shelter](#) or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “Homeless” definition in this section; and

(ii) Meets one of the following conditions:

- Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
- Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
- Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days of the date of application for assistance;
- Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by federal, [State](#), or local government programs for low-income individuals;
- Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons, or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 people per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
- Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
- Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

*Permanent supportive housing* means permanent housing in which voluntary supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently.

## **5. Web Resources.**

- [Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Regulations](#)
- [Code of Conduct list](#)
- [Do Not Pay](#)
- [Dun & Bradstreet](#)
- [Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations](#)
- [Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System](#)
- [FFATA Subaward Reporting System](#)
- [Grants.gov](#)
- [Healthy Homes Strategic Plan](#)
- [Healthy Housing Reference Manual](#)
- [HUD Funding Opportunities](#)
- [HUD’s Strategic Plan](#)
- [HUD Grants](#)
- [Limited English Proficiency](#)

- [NOFA webcasts](#)
- [Opportunity Zone](#)
- [Procurement of recovered materials](#)
- [Section 3 Business Registry](#)
- [State Point of Contact List](#)
- [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#)
- [Uniform Relocation Act – Real Property Acquisition and Relocation Requirements](#)
- [USA Spending](#)

## **B. Authority.**

The statutory authority for the Mainstream Voucher Program is the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. 8013 (Public Law 101-625) as amended by the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-374), the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6, approved February 15, 2019).

## **II. Award Information.**

### **A. Available Funds.**

Funding of up to **\$150,000,000** is available through this NOFA.

Additional funds may become available for award under this NOFA, because of HUD's efforts to recapture unused funds, use carryover funds, or because of the availability of additional appropriated funds. Use of these funds is subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the applicable funding restrictions contained in this NOFA.

### **B. Number of Awards.**

HUD expects to make approximately 300 awards from the funds available under this NOFA.

### **C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information.**

Estimated Total Funding:	\$150,000,000
Minimum Award Amount:	\$20,000 Per Project Period
Maximum Award Amount:	\$3,000,000 Per Project Period

### **D. Period of Performance.**

Estimated Project Start Date:	02/01/2020
Estimated Project End Date:	01/31/2021
Length of Project Periods:	12-month project period and budget

period

Length of Project Periods Explanation of Other:

#### **E. Type of Funding Instrument.**

Funding Instrument Type:

Grant

#### **F. Supplementation.**

### **III. Eligibility.**

#### **A. Eligible Applicants.**

Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities

Only PHAs that already administer Housing Choice Vouchers are eligible to apply. Indian housing authorities (IHAs) are not eligible because they do not administer Housing Choice Vouchers. Non-profits that already administer Mainstream voucher assistance are considered PHAs for the purpose of administering this assistance.

#### **B. Ineligible Applicants.**

Any applicant that does not meet the criteria above under Eligible Applicants.

#### **C. Cost Sharing or Matching.**

This Program does not require cost sharing, matching or leveraging.

#### **D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements.**

Applicants who fail to meet any of the following threshold eligibility requirements will be deemed ineligible. Applications from ineligible applicants will not be evaluated.

Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved to HUD's satisfaction prior to grant award, provided that all applicable legal processes have been satisfied.

**1. Timely Submission of Applications.** – Applications submitted after the deadline stated within this NOFA that do not meet the requirements of the grace period policy will be marked late. Late applications are ineligible and will not be considered for funding. See also Section IV Application and Submission Information, part D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

**2. PHA Code Provided on SF-424.** - The SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance completed in Grants.gov MUST include the PHA's code under field 5a. Federal Entity Identifier. The PHA Code is a 5-digit code that begins with the state abbreviation and then 3 numbers identifying the PHA within that state. If this code is not provide in field 5a or if it is

not in the correct format, the application will not be scored.

**3. Program Management Findings.** The PHA must not have any major unresolved program management findings from an Inspector General's audit, HUD management review or Independent Public Accountant (IPA) audit for the PHA's HCV program or other significant program compliance problems that were not resolved or in the process of being resolved prior to this NOFA's application deadline. Major program management findings, or significant program compliance problems, are those that would cast doubt on the capacity of the applicant to effectively administer any new HCV funding in accordance with applicable HUD regulatory and statutory requirements.

**4. Statement of Need.** The applicant submitted a Statement of Need with the application. No more vouchers will be awarded than the Statement of Need supports.

#### **E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.**

##### **Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Grants Programs.**

The following requirements affect applicant eligibility. Detailed information on each requirement is posted on HUD's Funding Opportunities Page ([click here](#)).

[Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts](#)

[Debarments and/or Suspensions](#)

[Pre-selection Review of Performance](#)

[Sufficiency of Financial Management System](#)

[False Statements](#)

[Mandatory Disclosure Requirement](#)

[Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities](#)

[Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities](#)

#### **F. Program-Specific Requirements Affecting Eligibility.**

**Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program Requirements.** HCVs awarded under this NOFA will be subject to all program requirements, including those at 24 CFR part 982, or part 983 if vouchers are project-based. Moving to Work (MTW) agencies may administer these vouchers under their MTW agreements, unless an MTW provision (or provisions) is inconsistent with Appropriations Act requirements or the requirements of this NOFA. If a conflict occurs, the Appropriations Act and/or this funding notice govern.

**Recapture and Reallocation of Funds.** Funds awarded may be recaptured and reallocated and units awarded may be reduced if the PHA does not comply with the requirements of the NOFA or fails to achieve a utilization rate of 80% for the PHA's Mainstream vouchers within 1 year of the new award's effective date. Funds may be reallocated for the following purposes: to cover a spending shortfall within the Mainstream Voucher Program, to increase the renewal proration rate, or to fund new units. PHAs should consider their ability to achieve this utilization rate within the first year when determining the maximum number of vouchers requested.

**Nondiscrimination Requirements for Partnerships.** Establishing a network of referrals and supports through PHA partnerships with service agencies should help ensure voucher

utilization, especially among individuals transitioning from institutional and other segregated settings and individuals at serious risk of institutionalization. While HUD does not require a particular structure for partner agreements, HUD encourages PHAs to develop partnerships with several agencies at both the state and local level. This may be accomplished by formalizing agreements with several community-based organizations committing to provide supports and referrals, or alternatively, by formalizing agreements with primary partner agencies that in turn have demonstrated commitments to work with various identified community-based organizations. This commitment may be demonstrated by identifying the various local organizations the PHA and primary partner agencies will work with through this network. This may include, for example, organizations assisting with discharge/transition planning and case management; supported employment providers; state Medicaid agencies (SMAs); Centers for Independent Living (CILs); fair housing organizations; state Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs); Area Agencies on Aging (AAA); State Protection and Advocacy Agencies (P&A's); Community Mental Health Centers and/or Long-Term Care Ombudsmen; Accountable Care Organizations; health and human service agencies; CoCs; other State agencies; and other various entities.

Such partnerships, however, cannot result in eligibility requirements which may violate nondiscrimination requirements under any applicable Federal civil rights statutes and requirements, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504), titles II or III of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA), and the Fair Housing Act and their implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8; 28 CFR parts 35 and 36; 24 CFR part 100. PHAs cannot restrict the vouchers to those referred or approved by a single state or local agency or to persons with specific disabilities or diagnoses unless through a HUD-approved remedial action. *See* HUD's Statement on the Role of Housing in Accomplishing the Goals of *Olmstead*, <https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/OLMSTEADGUIDNC060413.PDF>. For example, PHAs cannot exclusively partner with a local organization that solely provides services to individuals with a specific type of disability, or with a state Medicaid agency whose programs do not provide service options for individuals with certain disabilities; such partnerships would result in referrals being limited to individuals with a limited range of disabilities who qualify for specific service programs and exclude individuals with other types of disabilities who otherwise would qualify for participation in the voucher program.

**Voluntary Supportive Services.** PHAs (including MTW agencies) or partner agencies/organizations must not require participants to utilize supportive services as a condition for participation. Moreover, individuals with disabilities are not required to accept any services as a condition of housing assistance. Individuals may receive services from a different provider of their choosing or choose not to participate in any services.

**Option to Apply Directly.** PHAs must allow qualifying persons with disabilities that are transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, currently or experiencing homelessness, previously experienced homelessness and currently a client in a permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing project, or at risk of experiencing homeless to apply directly to the PHA for the program.

**Program Evaluation.** As a condition of the receipt of financial assistance under this NOFA, all Grantees will be required to cooperate with HUD, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), or any contractors affiliated with HUD, HHS, and CMS in evaluating this program. HUD may pursue the option to fund a



rigorous independent evaluation of this program, or HUD may choose to utilize existing administrative data and data submitted by grantees as part of quarterly and annual reports to assess the effectiveness of the program. As stated in PIH Notice 2010-25 (HA) and the HUD-50058 Instruction Booklet, PHAs must submit a HUD-50058 (or HUD-50058 MTW) for the appropriate actions completed. For research and evaluation, the following action codes are particularly important: Voucher Issuance (action type 10), Voucher Expiration (action type 11), and End of Participation (action type 6).

**Effective Communication.** All notices and communications must be provided in a manner that is effective for persons with hearing, visual, and other communication-related disabilities consistent with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and HUD's Section 504 regulation, and Titles II or III of the ADA and implementing regulations. Recipients must provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services necessary to ensure effective communication, which includes ensuring that information is provided in appropriate accessible formats as needed, *e.g.*, Braille, audio, large type, assistive listening devices, and sign language interpreters, accessible websites and other electronic communications (See 24 CFR 8.6; 28 CFR 35.160, 36.303).

#### **G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.**

Voucher recipient families must include a person that meets the definition of a non-elderly person with disabilities.

### **IV. Application and Submission Information.**

#### **A. Obtaining an Application Package.**

##### **Instructions for Applicants.**

You must download both the Application Instruction and the Application Package from Grants.gov. You must verify that the CFDA Number and CFDA Description on the first page of the Application Package, and the Funding Opportunity Title and the Funding Opportunity Number match the Program and NOFA to which you are applying.

The Application Package contains the portable document forms (PDFs) available on Grants.gov, such as the SF-424 Family. The Instruction Download contains official copies of the NOFA and forms necessary for a complete application. The Instruction Download may include Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and additional documents.

An applicant demonstrating good cause may request a waiver from the requirement for

electronic submission. For example, a lack of available Internet access in the geographic area in which your business offices are located. Lack of SAM registration or valid DUNS is not deemed good cause. If you cannot submit your application electronically, you must ask in writing for a waiver of the electronic grant submission requirements. HUD will not grant a waiver if HUD does not receive your written request at least 15 days before the application deadline and if you do not demonstrate good cause. An email request for a waiver sent 15 days before the application is due will also be considered. If HUD waives the requirement, HUD must receive your paper application before the deadline of this NOFA. To request a waiver you must contact:

Email: [MainstreamVouchers@hud.gov](mailto:MainstreamVouchers@hud.gov)

## **B. Content and Form of Application Submission.**

You must verify that boxes 11, 12, and 13 on the SF424 match the NOFA for which you are applying. If they do not match, you have downloaded the wrong Application Instruction and Application Package.

Submission of an application that is otherwise sufficient, under the wrong CFDA and Funding Opportunity Number is a curable deficiency.

### **1. Content.**

Forms for your package include the forms outlined below:

<b>Forms / Assurances / Certifications</b>	<b>Submission Requirement</b>	<b>Notes / Description</b>
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities - Form SF-LLL, if applicable	If this form is not applicable to your agency, do not include it as part of your submission.	This form is only applicable if your agency has used or intends to use nonfederal funds for lobbying activities. This requirement is not applicable to federally recognized tribes and their TDHEs. HUD may contact an applicant to clarify items on this form, and will be treated as a curable deficiency (see Sections IV.D.4 of this NOFA "Corrections to Deficient Applications" for more information).
Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report - Form HUD-2880	This form is required of all applicants. It is a Grants.gov fillable form.	This is the HUD Applicant Recipient Disclosure Report on Grants.gov. HUD may contact an applicant to clarify items on this form, and will be treated as a curable deficiency (see Sections IV.D.4 of this NOFA "Corrections to Deficient

		Applications" for more information).
Application for Federal Assistance - Form SF-424	This form is required of all applicants. It is a Grants.gov fillable form.	See Section IV.B.2.b of this NOFA ("SF_424") for more information. HUD may contact an applicant to clarify items on this form, and will be treated as a curable deficiency (see Sections IV.D.4 of this NOFA "Corrections to Deficient Applications" for more information).
Acknowledgment of Application Receipt (HUD2993), if applicable	This form is applicable only to applications submitted on paper, following receipt of a waiver of electronic submission.	This form is not required but is available for applicants who want confirmation that their hard-copy application was received by HUD. The form must be submitted with the application, in accordance with the application submission instructions included in the waiver of electronic submission.

Additionally, your complete application must include the following narratives and non-form attachments.

Your completed application will include the following 3 attachments.

#### **Attachment 1. Funding Application (HUD-52515)**

The completed application must include the HUD-52515 as an attachment named "Attachment 1\_HUD-52515\_<insert PHA Code>", e.g. Attachment 1\_HUD52515\_SA099. This form cannot be completed electronically in Grants.gov. A copy of the form is provided with the Application Instructions. Please note this is a NEW VERSION of the form that expires on July 31, 2022. Complete the form using the following instructions. A sample form is included in the appendix.

- A. Name and Mailing Address of the Housing Agency (PHA) - Enter the PHA name and Address
  - B. PHA Code – Enter the 5-digit alphanumeric code for the PHA that begins with the state abbreviation of the PHA and ends with three numbers, i.e. SA099
  - C. Number of Voucher Requested – Use this field to enter the Maximum Number of Voucher Requested (e.g. "Max: 100")
  - D. Geographic Area/Jurisdiction (describe the area in which assisted may live) - The geographic area in which the PHA may administer the vouchers awarded under this NOFA. Specify if PHA is partnering to expand jurisdiction with another PHA.
- Signature of PHA Representative – Please complete.
- Email Address – Please complete.

Print or Type Name of Signatory – Please complete.

Phone Number – Please complete.

Date – Please enter the date the document was signed.

- E. Leave blank – this will be covered in Attachment 2 PHA Certifications.
- F. Need/Extent of the Program – Statement of Need: Enter or provide as an attachment a Statement of Need to adequately demonstrate the need for Mainstream vouchers in the PHA's jurisdiction. that there is adequate need for Mainstream vouchers, which is not being met through other existing programs, by indicating the number of vouchers projected to be needed to assist non-elderly persons with disabilities over a 12-month period. The Statement of Need does not need to be based on the targeted population. It may be based on the unmet need for housing for non-elderly persons with disabilities who meet the PHA's income targeting requirements. If the PHA will formally partner with another PHA (where the partner PHA(s) are not applying for Mainstream vouchers) to share vouchers awarded through this NOFA, need may be based on the shared jurisdiction. PHA agreements must be included in Attachment 3.
- G. through L. – Leave blank – these will be covered in Attachments 2 and 3.

## **Attachment 2. Rating Factor Certifications**

In order to get points for Rating Factors 1, 2, and 4, the PHA must provide an attachment with the statements described in this section. The information must be provided in one attachment in the order shown below and named "Attachment 2\_Rating Factor Certifications\_<Insert PHA Code>". This file must be no longer than 5 pages. The file must be signed and dated by an authorized PHA official. See sample document provided in Appendix.

### Rating Factor 1. Prior Experience Assisting Persons with Disabilities

This indicator measures the PHA's prior experience implementing policies or programs that promote assistance to persons with disabilities, increase the supply of accessible units, or provide additional supportive services (either directly or through partnerships) to persons with disabilities to ensure housing stability. These experiences may have been conducted solely by the PHA or with a partner agency. Provide a certifying response of **Yes or No** to the following examples of programs or policies a PHA may have implemented. For items 1.2 through 1.8, provide no more than 5 sentences to describe the experience:

*1.1. Has the PHA partnered or collaborated with state Medicaid agencies, homelessness assistance providers, or health and human services agencies in the implementation of the:*

- *Money Follows the Person demonstration? **Yes or No***
- *Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program? **Yes or No***
- *Non-Elderly Disabled Category 2 (NED2) voucher? **Yes or No***
- *Family Unification Program? **Yes or No***
- *Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program? **Yes or No***
- *Mainstream Voucher Program? **Yes or No***
- *Permanent Supportive Housing? **Yes or No***
- *Other similar programs that coordinate community-based housing assistance and supportive services for persons with disabilities? If yes, provide brief description of*

program.

1.2. Has the PHA developed or adopted a referral or monitoring system to track referrals, applicants and participants of supportive housing programs for or including persons with disabilities, such as a Coordinated Entry System established by a local CoC? **Yes or No**

1.3. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to cover the cost of home modifications to make units more accessible, including fall prevention and assistive technology/smart housing? **Yes or No**

1.4. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to cover the cost of securing units to further the implementation of Olmstead settlements or similar initiatives to expand community-based setting options for individuals with disabilities, e.g. rent deposit, move-in costs, furniture? **Yes or No**

1.5. Has the PHA partnered with local government to provide tax credits or zoning incentives for the development of accessible housing units? **Yes or No**

1.6. Has the PHA developed or partnered with another organization to provide an enhanced accessible housing registry with units compliant with federal accessibility standards, including additional assistance to individuals in search of accessible units? **Yes or No**

1.7. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to assist participants with the housing search and application process, including filling reasonable accommodation requests? **Yes or No**

1.8. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to offer or coordinate the delivery of voluntary tenancy support and other services and supports to persons with disabilities? **Yes or No**

Rating Factor 2. Admissions Preference (if the PHA will not adopt the admissions preference, enter "Not Applicable" for this section on Attachment 2)

(Insert PHA name) already has a preference or will provide a preference in its administrative plan for non-elderly persons with disabilities who are (check the preference(s) that has or will be adopted):

☐ transitioning out of institutional and other segregated settings

☐ at serious risk of institutionalization

☐ currently experiencing homelessness

☐ previously experienced homelessness and currently a client in a permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing project

☐ at risk of experiencing homelessness

An update to the administrative plan will be completed within six months of the award date.

Rating Factor 3. Program Resources - There are no certifications for this rating factor.

Rating Factor 4. Achieving Results and Evaluation

PHA must submit a certification stating whether PHA will have a program evaluation plan and reporting. If certification is not provided, relevant points will not be awarded. If the PHA does

not have a program evaluation plan, enter "Not Applicable" for this section on Attachment 2. To receive points for this indicator, the PHA must certify to having a program evaluation plan using the language provided below. The PHA may only provide the first statement to receive 10 points, or provide both the first and second statements to receive 15 points.

*(Insert PHA name) will have a program evaluation plan describing how it will work with partner agencies to monitor the Mainstream Program and correct any programmatic issues. As well, (Insert PHA name) will establish a quarterly report, to be shared between partnering agencies, which will provide the following information:*

- *Number of vouchers issued*
- *Units leased/families housed*
- *Type of service coordination and tenancy support provided*
- *Overall utilization rate*

(Add the following statement to certification if your PHA will employ a centralized tracking system)

*Along with the criterion above, the (Insert PHA name) also certifies a centralized tracking system will be used with the partner agencies, allowing both the PHA and partner organizations to access the required metrics electronically.*

### **Attachment 3. Partnership Agreements and Program Resources**

All of the following must be uploaded into one attachment and named "Attachment 3\_Partnership Agreements and Program Resources\_<insert PHA Code>".

Letters of intent, memoranda of understanding, or other agreements from State Medicaid Agencies and/or other community-based organizations serving persons with disabilities, including but not limited to Centers for Independent Living (as defined in section 702 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 796a)), fair housing organizations, state Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs), Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) or State Agencies (as defined as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002), State Protection and Advocacy Agencies (P&A's) Community Mental Health Centers and/or Long Term Care Ombudsmen, Accountable Care Organizations, homeless service providers, health and human services agencies, or other State agencies with experience helping identify and assist individuals seeking to transition into community settings or to remain in community settings. If services are provided in-house by the PHA, provide a description of how the services will be provided on the PHA's letterhead. The letter, memo, or agreement must be on the organization's letterhead and must state that the organization will provide one or more of the following services:

- a. Coordinate outreach and referral of persons in institutional and other segregated settings who want to move to community-based integrated settings and persons at serious risk of institutionalization, and persons currently experiencing homelessness
- b. Assist persons with disabilities to apply to and obtain acceptance in housing programs OR find housing OR secure home modifications and/or disability-related accommodations
- c. Assist persons with disabilities to move into units, including physically accessible units

- where appropriate, on the private rental market
- d. Referring, coordinating, or providing home and community-based services
- e. Provide outreach to recruit landlords to participate in the housing choice voucher program (either for the program as a whole or specifically for the Mainstream Voucher Program)

## **2. Format and Form.**

Narratives and other attachments to your application must follow the following format guidelines.

### **Guidance for Locating and Completing Forms**

**a. General.** Please note that the application consists of the "application download" and the "instructions download." Forms referred to as "electronic" are part of the application download in grants.gov, and forms referred to as "attachments" are part of the instructions download in grants.gov. Use only the forms included in the Grants.gov application download and instructions download for this funding opportunity to avoid using outdated forms.

**b. Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424).** In addition to the program specific instructions provided below, general instructions for this form are available on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Question 2 - check "New"

Question 5a. the Federal Identifier requested in 5a. is the PHA number of each applicant PHA (e.g., MD035 or AK002).

Question 5b. leave blank

Questions 10, 11, 12 and 13 are pre-populated. Do not add or change anything

Question 14 you may leave blank and do not need to attach anything.

Question 15 you may choose the title. However, we suggest using the name of your PHA plus Mainstream.

Question 16 if the location of your office and the location of the program/project is within the same Congressional District, you should include the same answer for both parts.

Question 17 most applicants should indicate November 1, 2019-October 31, 2020 (however, this is an estimate and the actual dates will be determined at grant agreement).

Question 18 complete 18.a. which will be the amount requested from HUD in this FY19 Mainstream NOFA. The PHA may estimate their funding needs by determining the inflated HAP amount (based on VMS) needed to fund a 2-bedroom unit for 12 months multiplied by the number of vouchers they would like to be awarded. Do NOT include administrative fees in this amount. Admin fees will be paid based on vouchers leased, however, they are not factored into the award amount.

Question 19 answer c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

Do not add attachments to the SF\_424. Use the Attachments Form in the electronic application to submit attachments.

## **C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number.**

### **1. SAM Registration Requirement.**

Applicants must be registered with SAM before submitting their application. In addition, applicants must maintain an active SAM registration with current information while they have an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by HUD.

## **2. DUNS Number Requirement.**

Applicants must provide a valid DUNS number, registered and active at SAM, in the application. DUNS numbers may be obtained for free from [Dun & Bradstreet](#).

## **3. Requirement to Register with Grants.gov.**

Anyone planning to submit applications on behalf of an organization must register at Grants.gov and be approved by the EBiz Point of Contact in SAM to submit applications for the organization.

Registration for SAM and Grants.gov is a multi-step process and can take four (4) weeks or longer to complete if data issues arise. Applicants without a valid registration cannot submit an application through Grants.gov. Complete registration instructions and guidance are provided at Grants.gov. See also Section IV.B for necessary form and content information.

## **D. Application Submission Dates and Times.**

The application deadline is 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern time on **09/05/2019**. Applications must be received no later than the deadline.

Submit your application to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit your application in paper form. Instructions for submitting your paper application will be contained in the waiver of electronic submission.

"Received by Grants.gov" means the applicant received a confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number from Grants.gov. Grants.gov then assigns an application tracking number and date-and time-stamps each application upon successful receipt by the Grants.gov system. A submission attempt not resulting in confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number is not considered received by Grants.gov.

Applications received by Grants.gov must be validated by Grants.gov to be received by HUD.

"Validated by Grants.gov" means the application has been accepted and was not rejected with errors. You can track the status of your application by logging into Grants.gov, selecting "Applicants" from the top navigation, and selecting "Track my application" from the dropdown list. If the application status is "rejected with errors," you must correct the error(s) and resubmit the application before the 24-hour grace period ends. Applications in "rejected with errors" status after the 24-hour grace period expires will not be received by HUD. Visit Grants.gov for a complete description of processing steps after submitting an application.

HUD strongly recommends applications be submitted at least **48 hours before the deadline** and during regular business hours to allow enough time to correct errors or overcome other problems.



You can verify the contents of your submitted application to confirm Grants.gov received everything you intended to submit. To verify the contents of your submitted application:

- Log in to Grants.gov.
- Click the Check Application Status link, which appears under the Grant Applications heading in the Applicant Center page. This will take you to the Check Application Status page.
- Enter search criteria and a date range to narrow your search results.
- Click the Search button. To review your search results in Microsoft Excel, click the Export Data button.
- Review the Status column.
- To view more detailed submission information, click the Details link in the Actions column.
- To download the submitted application, click the Download link in the Actions column.

Please make note of the Grants.gov tracking number as it will be needed by the Grants.gov Help Desk if you seek their assistance.

HUD may extend the application deadline for any program if Grants.gov is offline or not available to applicants for at least 24 hours immediately prior to the deadline date, or the system is down for 24 hours or longer and impacts the ability of applicants to cure a submission deficiency within the grace period.

HUD may also extend the application deadline upon request if there is a presidentially-declared disaster in the applicant's area.

If these events occur, HUD will post a notice on its website establishing the new, extended deadline for the affected applicants. HUD will also include the fact of the extension in the program's Notice of Funding Awards required to be published in the Federal Register.

In determining whether to grant a request for an extension based on a presidentially-declared disaster, HUD will consider the totality of the circumstances including the date of an applicant's extension request (how closely it followed the basis for the extension), whether other applicants in the geographic area are similarly affected by the disaster, and how quickly power or services are restored to enable the applicant to submit its application.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Busy servers, slow processing, large file sizes, improper registration or password issues are not valid circumstances to extend the deadline dates or the grace period.

### **1. Amending or Resubmitting an Application.**

Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised application containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline.

If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline.

## **2. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions.**

If your application is received by Grants.gov before the deadline, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of 24 hours after the application deadline to submit a corrected, received, and validated application through Grants.gov. The date and time stamp on the

Grants.gov system determines the application receipt time. Any application submitted during the grace period not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications.

## **3. Late Applications.**

An application received after the NOFA deadline date that does not meet the Grace Period requirements will be marked late and will not be received by HUD for funding consideration. Improper or expired registration and password issues are not causes that allow HUD to accept applications after the deadline.

## **4. Corrections to Deficient Applications.**

HUD will not consider information from applicants after the application deadline. HUD may contact the applicant to clarify information submitted prior to the deadline. HUD will uniformly notify applicants of each curable deficiency. A curable deficiency is an error or oversight that, if corrected, it would not alter, in a positive or negative fashion, the review and rating of the application. See curable deficiency in the definitions section (Section I.A.3.). Examples of curable (correctable) deficiencies include inconsistencies in the funding request and failure to submit required certifications. These examples are non-exhaustive.

When HUD identifies a curable deficiency, HUD will notify the authorized representative by email. This email is the official notification of a curable deficiency. Each applicant must provide accurate email addresses for receipt of these notifications and must monitor their email accounts to determine whether a deficiency notification has been received. The applicant must carefully review the request to cure a deficiency and must provide the response in accordance with the instructions contained in the deficiency notification.

Applicants must email corrections of curable deficiencies to [applicationsupport@hud.gov](mailto:applicationsupport@hud.gov) within the time limits specified in the notification. The time allowed to correct deficiencies will be no less than 48 hours and no more than 14 calendar days from the date of the email notification. The start of the cure period will be the date stamp on the email sent from HUD. If the deficiency cure deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Federal holiday, or on a day when HUD's Headquarters are closed, then the applicant's correction must be received on the next business day HUD Headquarters offices in Washington, DC are open.

The subject line of the email sent to [applicationsupport@hud.gov](mailto:applicationsupport@hud.gov) must state: Technical Cure and include the Grants.gov application tracking number or the GrantSolutions application number (e.g., Subject: Technical Cure - GRANT123456 or Technical Cure - XXXXXXXXXXXX). If this information is not included, HUD cannot match the response with

the application under review and the application may be rejected due to the deficiency.

Corrections to a paper application must be sent in accordance with and to the address indicated in the notification of deficiency. HUD will treat a paper application submitted in accordance with a waiver of electronic application containing the wrong DUNS number as having a curable deficiency. Failure to correct the deficiency and meet the requirement to have a DUNS number and active registration in SAM will render the application ineligible for funding.

**5. Authoritative Versions of HUD NOFAs.** The version of these NOFAs as posted on Grants.gov are the official documents HUD uses to solicit applications.

**6. Exemptions.** Parties that believe the requirements of the NOFA would impose a substantial burden on the exercise of their religion should seek an exemption under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

#### **E. Intergovernmental Review.**

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

#### **F. Funding Restrictions.**

No restrictions.

Indirect Cost Rate.

#### **G. Other Submission Requirements.**

##### **1. Application Certifications and Assurances.**

By signing the forms in the SF-424 either through electronic submission or in paper copy submission (for those granted a waiver), the applicant and the signing authorized representative affirm that they have reviewed the certifications and assurances associated with the application for federal assistance and (1) are aware the submission of the SF424 is an assertion that the relevant certifications and assurances are established and (2) acknowledge that the truthfulness of the certifications and assurances are material representations upon which HUD will rely when making an award to the applicant. If it is later determined the signing authorized representative to the application made a false certification or assurance, caused the submission of a false certification or assurance, or did not have the authority to make a legally binding commitment for the applicant, the applicant and the individual who signed the application may be subject to administrative, civil, or criminal action. Additionally, HUD may terminate the award to the applicant organization or pursue other available remedies. Each applicant is responsible for including the correct certifications and assurances with its application

submission, including those applicable to all applicants, those applicable only to federally-recognized Indian tribes, and those applicable to applicants other than federally-recognized Indian tribes. All program-specific certifications and assurances are included in the program Instructions Download on Grants.gov.

## **2. Lead Based Paint Requirements.**

When providing education or counseling on buying or renting housing that may include pre-1978 housing, when required by regulation or policy, applicants must inform clients of their rights under the Lead Disclosure Rule (24 CFR part 35, subpart A), and, if the focus of the education or counseling is on rental or purchase of HUD-assisted pre-1978 housing, the Lead Safe Housing Rule (subparts B, R, and, as applicable, F - M).

## **V. Application Review Information.**

### **A. Review Criteria.**

#### **1. Rating Factors.**

##### **Rating Factor 1: Prior Experience Assisting Persons with Disabilities**

**Maximum Points: 20**

No applicant will receive more than 20 points for this indicator. This indicator measures the PHA's prior experience implementing policies or programs that promote assistance to persons with disabilities, increase the supply of accessible units, or provide additional supportive services (either directly or through partnerships) to persons with disabilities to ensure housing stability. These experiences may have been conducted solely by the PHA or with a partner agency.

1.1 Has the PHA partnered or collaborated with state Medicaid agencies, homelessness assistance providers, or health and human services agencies in the implementation of the following programs: (5 points for each program listed)

- Money Follows the Person demonstration? Yes or No
- Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program? Yes or No
- Non-Elderly Disabled Category 2 (NED2) voucher? Yes or No
- Family Unification Program (FUP)? Yes or No
- Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program? Yes or No
- Mainstream Voucher Program? Yes or No
- Permanent Supportive Housing? Yes or No
- Other similar programs that coordinate community-based housing assistance and supportive services for persons with disabilities? Yes or No (If yes, provide brief

description of program)

1.2. Has the PHA developed or adopted a referral or monitoring system to track referrals, applicants and participants of supportive housing programs for or including persons with disabilities, such as a Coordinated Entry System established by a local Continuum of Care? (5 points)

1.3. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to cover the cost of home modifications to make units more accessible, including fall prevention and assistive technology/smart housing? (5 points)

1.4. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to cover the cost of securing units to further the implementation of Olmstead settlements or similar initiatives to expand community-based setting options for individuals with disabilities, e.g. rent deposit, move-in costs, furniture? (5 points)

1.5. Has the PHA partnered with local government to provide tax credits or zoning incentives for the development of accessible housing units? (5 points)

1.6. Has the PHA developed or partnered with another organization to provide an enhanced accessible housing registry with units compliant with federal accessibility standards, including additional assistance to individuals in search of accessible units? (5 points)

1.7. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to assist participants with the housing search and application process, including filling reasonable accommodation requests? (5 points)

1.8. Has the PHA provided or leveraged resources from a partner organization to offer or coordinate the delivery of voluntary tenancy support and other services and supports to persons with disabilities? (5 points)

HUD reserves the right to award fewer than the points listed for each example above if the application or available performance data demonstrate low quality or partial implementation.

Documentation Used to Evaluate Rating Factor 1: Attachment 2 - Rating Factor Certifications and HUD performance data. Performance data will be used to determine point values when the PHA has experience with the following relevant HUD programs: Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program, NED2, FUP, VASH, and Mainstream.

#### Rating Factor 2: Admissions Preference

Maximum Points: 15

The applicant will receive either 0 points or 15 points for this indicator. In order to receive points for this indicator, the applicant must provide the following certification agreeing to have a preference for at least one of the targeted groups mentioned in the statement. PHAs have the discretion to limit the number of applicants that may qualify for a particular preference. If the PHA claims points under this indicator, the adopted preference must apply to at least the number of vouchers awarded to the PHA through this NOFA.

*(Insert PHA name) already has a preference or will provide a preference in its administrative plan for non-elderly persons with disabilities who are (check any preference(s) that have or will be adopted):*

     *transitioning out of institutional and other segregated settings*

at serious risk of institutionalization

currently experiencing homelessness

previously experienced homelessness and currently a client in a permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing project

at risk of experiencing homelessness

*An update to the administrative plan will be completed within six months of the award date.*

Documentation Used to Evaluate Rating Factor 2: Attachment 2 - Rating Criteria

Certifications. For documentation requirements, see Section IV.B.1.

### Rating Factor 3. Program Resources

Maximum Points: 50

No applicant will receive more than 50 points for this indicator. This indicator measures the services that will be available. In order to receive points under this indicator, the applicant must certify that it will provide the following services or demonstrate that it has one or more partnerships with agencies or organizations that will provide the following services. Unlike the previous NOFA, the PHA will receive only 10 points per service listed below. For example, if the PHA will provide the services described under "a." below and a partner will provide the same services, the application will receive 10 points total for "a.". The only way the application will receive 50 points for this is if the PHA or its partners provide will provide all five of the services listed below.

- a. Coordinate outreach and referral of persons in institutional and other segregated settings who want to move to community-based integrated settings and persons at serious risk of institutionalization (10 points)
- b. Assist persons with disabilities to apply to and obtain acceptance in housing programs OR find housing OR secure home modifications and/or disability-related accommodations (10 points)
- c. Assist persons with disabilities to move into units, including physically accessible units where appropriate, on the private rental market (10 points)
- d. Referring, coordinating, or providing home and community-based services (10 points)
- e. Provide outreach to recruit landlords to participate in the housing choice voucher program (either for the program as a whole or specifically for the Mainstream Voucher Program) (10 points)

Documentation Used to Evaluate Rating Factor 3: Attachment 3 - Partnership Agreements and Program Resources (letters of intent, MOUs, or other documentation of commitment from the PHA or partner agency/organization). If the PHA will provide these services in-house, the PHA's letter stating the services they will provide to support this program. For documentation requirements, see Section IV.B.1.

### Rating Factor 4: Achieving Results and Program Evaluation

Maximum Points: 15

No applicant will receive more than 15 points for this indicator. To receive points for this indicator, the PHA must certify to having a program evaluation plan using the language provided below. The PHA may only provide the first statement to receive 10 points, or provide both the first and second statements to receive 15 points.

*(Insert PHA name) will have a program evaluation plan describing how it will work with partner agencies to monitor the Mainstream Program and correct any programmatic issues. As well, (Insert PHA name) will establish a quarterly report, to be shared between partnering agencies and HUD (if requested), which will provide the following information:*

- *Number of vouchers issued*
- *Units leased/families housed*
- *Type of service coordination and tenancy support provided*
- *Overall utilization rate*

(10 points)

*AND*

Along with the criterion above, a certification including the following statement: *the (Insert PHA name) also certifies a centralized tracking system will be used with the partner agencies, allowing both the PHA and partner organizations to access the required metrics electronically.*

(5 points)

Documentation Used to Evaluate Rating Factor 4: Attachment 2 - Rating Criteria  
Certifications. For documentation requirements, see Section IV.B.1.

## **2. Other Factors.**

### **Preference Points.**

HUD encourages activities in Opportunity Zones (OZ) and activities in collaboration with HBCUs. HUD may award two (2) points for qualified activities supporting either or both initiative(s). In no case will HUD award more than two preference points for these activities.

### **Opportunity Zones.**

This program does not offer Opportunity Zone preference points.

### **HBCU.**

This program does not offer HBCU preference points.

## **B. Review and Selection Process.**

### **1. Past Performance**

In evaluating applications for funding, HUD will consider an applicant's past performance in managing funds. Items HUD may consider include, but are not limited to:

The ability to account for funds appropriately;  
Timely use of funds received from HUD;  
Timely submission and quality of reports submitted to HUD;  
Meeting program requirements;  
Meeting performance targets as established in the grant agreement;

The applicant's organizational capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities;  
Time-lines for completion of activities and receipt of promised matching or leveraged funds;  
and  
The number of persons to be served or targeted for assistance;

HUD may reduce scores as specified under V. A. Review Criteria. Whenever possible, HUD will obtain past performance information. If this review results in an adverse finding related to integrity or performance, HUD reserves the right to take any of the remedies provided in Section III.E Pre-selection Review of Performance, above.

## **2. Assessing Applicant Risk.**

In evaluating risks posed by applicants, the Federal awarding agency may use a risk-based approach and may consider any items such as the following:

- Financial stability;
- Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
- History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;
- Reports and findings from audits performed under Subpart F—Audit Requirements of this part or the reports and findings of any other available audits; and
- The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

Risk will be evaluated reviewing the elements described in Sections III.D., III.E., and III.F. of this NOFA.

HUD may deduct points from the rating score or establish threshold levels as specified under the Factors for Award in the Program NOFAs. Each Program NOFA will specify how past performance will be rated or otherwise used in the determination of award amounts. Whenever possible, HUD will obtain past performance information from staff with the greatest knowledge and understanding of each applicant's performance. If this evaluation results in an adverse finding related to integrity or performance, HUD reserves the right to take any of the remedies provided in Section III.E., Pre-selection Review of Performance, above.

## **VI. Award Administration Information.**

### **A. Award Notices.**

Following the evaluation process, HUD will notify successful applicants of their selection for funding. HUD will also notify other applicants, whose applications were received by the deadline, but have not been chosen for award. Notifications will be sent by email to the person listed as the AOR in item 21 of the SF424.



**Negotiation.** After HUD has made selections, some HUD programs may negotiate specific terms of the funding agreement and budget with selected applicants. If HUD and a selected applicant do not successfully conclude negotiations in a timely manner, or a selected applicant fails to provide requested information, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant. Consult the program NOFA for specific details.

HUD may impose special conditions on an award as provided under 2 CFR 200.207:

- Based on HUD's review of the applicant's risk under 2 CFR 200.205;
- When the applicant or recipient has a history of failure to comply with the general or specific terms and conditions of a Federal award;
- When the applicant or recipient fails to meet expected performance goals; or
- When the applicant or recipient is not otherwise responsible.

**Adjustments to Funding.** To ensure the fair distribution of funds and enable the purposes or requirements of a specific program to be met, HUD reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in an application.

a. HUD will fund no portion of an application that:

- (1) Is not eligible for funding under applicable statutory or regulatory requirements;
- (2) Does not meet the requirements of this notice; or
- (3) Duplicates other funded programs or activities from prior year awards or other selected applicants.

b. If funds are available after funding the highest-ranking application, HUD may fund all or part of another eligible fundable application. If an applicant turns down an award offer, or if HUD and an applicant do not successfully complete grant negotiations, HUD may make an offer of funding to another eligible application.

c. If funds remain after all selections have been made, remaining funds may be made available within the current FY for other competitions within the program area, or be held for future competitions, or be used as otherwise provided by authorizing statute or appropriation.

d. If, after announcement of awards made under the current NOFA, additional funds become available either through the current appropriations, a supplemental appropriation, other appropriations or recapture of funds, HUD may use the additional funds to provide additional funding to an applicant awarded less than the requested amount of funds to make the full award, and/or to fund additional applicants that were eligible to receive an award but for which there were no funds available.

**Funding Errors.** If HUD commits an error that when corrected would cause selection of an applicant during the funding round of a Program NOFA, HUD may select that applicant for funding, subject to the availability of funds.

**Projected Leasing Schedule.** HUD may request a projected leasing schedule from the PHA.

## **B. Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements for HUD recipients.**

For this NOFA, the following Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements

and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards apply. Please [Click here](#) to read the detailed description of each applicable requirement.

#### 1. Compliance with Non-discrimination and Other Requirements

Unless otherwise specified, these non-discrimination and equal opportunity authorities and other requirements apply to all NOFAs. Please read the following requirements carefully as the requirements are different among HUD's programs.

- Compliance with Fair Housing and Civil Rights Laws, Which Encompass the Fair Housing Act and Related Authorities (cf. 24 CFR 5.105(a)).
  - Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.
  - Economic Opportunities for Low-and Very Low-income Persons (Section 3).
  - Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP).
  - Accessible Technology.

#### 2. Equal Access Requirements.

#### 3. Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities.

#### 4. Participation in HUD-Sponsored Program Evaluation.

#### 5. Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities.

#### 6. Violence Against Women Act.

#### 7. Environmental Requirements.

Compliance with 24 CFR part 50 or 58 procedures is explained below:

Environmental Review. Tenant-based rental assistance is excluded from environmental review in accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(11) and 24 CFR 58.35(b)(1). Homeownership assistance activities for existing units or dwelling units under construction are categorically excluded from NEPA requirements and excluded from other environmental requirements under 24 CFR 58.5 in accordance with 24 CFR 58.35(b)(5), but PHAs are responsible for the environmental requirements in 24 CFR 982.626(c). Regarding activities under the homeownership option for units not yet under construction at the time the family enters into the contract for sale, the additional environmental review requirements referenced in 24 CFR Sections 982.628(e), 982.631(c) (3) and 982.637(b) also apply in addition to Section 982.626(c), and the PHA shall submit all relevant environmental information to the responsible entity or to HUD to assist in the completion of those requirements. Project-based vouchers funded under this NOFA are subject to environmental review requirements in 24 CFR 983.4, 983.58, and 983.153(b).

### **C. Reporting.**

HUD requires recipients to submit performance and financial reports under OMB guidance and program instructions.

**1. Reporting Requirements and Frequency of Reporting.** Applicants should be aware that if the total Federal share of your Federal award includes more than \$ 500,000 over the period of performance, you may be subject to post award reporting requirements reflected in Appendix XII to Part 200-Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

**2. Performance Reporting.** All HUD-funded programs, including this program, require recipients to submit, not less than annually, a report documenting achievement of outcomes under the purpose of the program and the work plan in the award agreement.

**3. Race, Ethnicity and Other Data Reporting.** HUD requires recipients that provide HUD-funded program benefits to individuals or families to report data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households who are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of HUD programs in order to carry out the Department's responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 562 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987. NOFAs may specify the data collection and reporting requirements. Many programs use the Race and Ethnic Data Reporting Form HUD-27061, U.S. Department of Housing OMB Approval No. 2535-0113.

#### **D. Debriefing.**

For a period of at least 120 days, beginning 30 days after the public announcement of awards under this NOFA, HUD will provide a debriefing related to their application to requesting applicants. A request for debriefing must be made in writing or by email by the authorized official whose signature appears on the SF424 or by his or her successor in office and be submitted to the point of contact in Section VII Agency Contact(s), below. Information provided during a debriefing may include the final score the applicant received for each rating factor, final evaluator comments for each rating factor, and the final assessment indicating the basis upon which funding was approved or denied.

#### **VII. Agency Contacts.**

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFA.

Questions regarding specific program requirements for this NOFA should be directed to the point of contact listed below.

[MainstreamVouchers@hud.gov](mailto:MainstreamVouchers@hud.gov)

Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications.

#### **VIII. Other Information.**

##### **1. National Environmental Policy Act.**

**This NOFA provides funding under, and does not alter the environmental requirements**

**of, 24 CFR parts 982 and 983.** Accordingly, under 24 CFR **24 CFR 50.19(c)(5)**, this NOFA is categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321).

Activities under this NOFA are subject to the environmental review provisions referenced in Section VI.B.5. of this NOFA.