FY 2019 Conference Spending *(reported January 31, 2020)*

HUD has implemented a departmental conference review, approval, and reporting process to ensure that appropriated funds are spent properly relative to our essential mission. Managers throughout the department are thoroughly evaluating ways to leverage technology when possible and maximize the benefit from the expenditures on conferences and travel. To this end, HUD has also increased the use of webcasts and online trainings in place of in-person conferences and meetings.

HUD's conference process includes input from within HUD and from our constituents on the required training and information exchange that is best accomplished in-person. With proper internal controls, HUD's leadership is confident that we will continue to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

On June 15, 2017, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Memorandum-17-26 "Reducing Burden for Federal Agencies by Rescinding and Modifying OMB Memoranda" As required by M-17-26, HUD is reporting on each conference sponsored by HUD during the prior fiscal year where US Government appropriated funds were expended in excess of $100,000.

Conferences in excess of $500,000
During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019 (FY 2019), HUD did not sponsor any conferences which expended appropriated federal funds in excess of $500,000.

Conferences in excess of $100,000
Three conferences sponsored by HUD during FY 2019 incurred the expenditure of appropriated funds in excess of $100,000. The following information is presented, per the guidance in M-17-08, for each of these conferences:
- sponsoring HUD program office
- conference name
- location
- date
- total number of individuals whose travel expenses or other conference expenses were paid by HUD
- total conference expenses incurred
- brief explanation how the conference advanced HUD's mission

The table below contains the required information for those conferences that HUD sponsored during FY 2019 which cost more than $100k.

Listing of FY 2019 HUD-Sponsored Conferences Over $100k				
Program Office *(The link to each program office home page is provided below)*	**Conference (Name, Location and Date)**	**Number of Payees**	**Total Conference Expenses**	**How the Conference Advanced the Mission of the Agency**
Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO)	National Fair Housing Training Academy, Fair Housing Assistance Program / Fair Housing Initiatives Program 2018 Training Location: Washington, DC Area Dates: November 27-29, 2018	4	$217,000	The Fair Housing Act, as amended, provides that the Secretary shall investigate a person's complaint which alleges an occurrence of a discriminatory housing practice. This three-day training event provided our Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) and Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) partners with critical, in-depth training on the skills required to properly investigate, test, and process such fair housing complaints.

Program Office *(The link to each program office home page is provided below)*	Conference (Name, Location and Date)	Number of Payees	Total Conference Expenses	How the Conference Advanced the Mission of the Agency
Office of Field Policy and Management (FPM)	All Managers Strategic Operations Meeting Location: Kansas City, MO Dates: November 27-30, 2018	112	$146,000	The conference advanced the mission of the agency by reinforcing the following concepts: 1. Continuous Strategic Operations - Participants learned about the importance of maintaining critical staff at appropriate levels to ensure that FPM's core mission can be accomplished and were encouraged to continue cross program collaboration that ensures good decision making and policy implementation. 2. Customer Service - Attendees participated in interactive discussions about the overall customer experience and applications, capabilities and technology tools administered or utilized by FPM to support agency operations to include the Tier 1 Field Customer Response Tool and the Disaster Field Solution Response Tool. 3. Management Engagement - Participants reinforced staff engagement using tools and techniques that improve communication and engagement between management and staff. 4. Disaster Preparedness Updates - Attendees received training and implementation of the Department's efforts related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery at the regional, state and local level.
Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R)	Innovative Housing Showcase Location: Washington, DC Date: June 1-5, 2019	5,000 (estimated)	$346,000	HUD is focused on the increasing need for housing affordability, building performance, and resilience in the face of natural disasters or climate events. The Innovative Housing Showcase provided a venue to expand the awareness of housing design and construction approaches that would serve to address those concerns. Because government leaders, builders, and the general public may not be familiar with such products or processes, approaches that would contribute to improved housing for America's families may not be considered. The Showcase helped to increase that awareness among the attendees.

Program Office (The link to each program office home page is provided below)	Conference (Name, Location and Date)	Number of Payees	Total Conference Expenses	How the Conference Advanced the Mission of the Agency
Ginnie Mae	Ginnie Mae Summit Location: Washington, DC Date: June 13-14, 2019	1,000	$263,000	The Ginnie Mae Summit: • Fulfilled essential elements of our charter which direct Ginnie Mae, as a wholly owned government corporation, to be visible, to be in the market constantly and to respond appropriately to the private capital market, including "providing ongoing assistance to the secondary market." • Provided assurance to the market, both domestically and globally allowing us to attract global capital. • Introduced "Ginnie Mae 2020", our major modernization initiative that encompasses a set of long-term, high-impact, high-visibility initiatives that constitute major platform/program improvements and require industry buy-in and support. "Ginnie Mae 2020" aligns with HUD's Strategic Objective "Organize and Deliver Services More Effectively" and develops an in-depth curriculum that will continue to explore the areas where our business partners experience the most challenges – particularly including the future of servicing and the growing number of non-bank servicers who issue Ginnie Mae securities. • Delivered training (during plenary sessions and concurrent breakout sessions) for a majority of Ginnie Mae's 400+ active issuers providing important updates on safety and soundness concerns for issuers and explaining new risk measures that Ginnie Mae has either already implemented or is considering. • Provided a forum for Ginnie Mae and HUD leaders to talk to issuers, investors and other stakeholders about critical issues in the mortgage finance industry which involve Ginnie Mae directly, and to discuss Ginnie Mae's transformative role in the secondary market.

HUD's executive team continues to be personally involved in the review and approval of HUD-sponsored conferences. In October of 2011 HUD implemented M-11-35 and on January 23, 2014 the Deputy Secretary certified that the system of internal controls required by this memorandum was in place.

In each program and administrative office, the Senior Official (Assistant Secretary or equivalent) authorized any HUD-sponsored conference over $50k. The Second-most Senior Official (General Deputy Assistant Secretary (GDAS) or equivalent) authorized any HUD-sponsored conference over $20k. For those HUD-sponsored greater than $100k, these office executives also requested two additional approvals from the Chief Financial Officer and the Deputy Secretary. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer served as the single channel for both these approvals and reporting. Conferences are an important component of our mission critical activity. Through these efforts we continue to reduce spending and properly prioritize the limited funding available.