

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

Lead Hazard Reduction

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Enacted/ Requested	Carryover	Adjustments	Total Resources	Obligations	Net Outlays
2024 Appropriation	295,600	709,219	(65,000)	939,819	531,124	183,315
2025 Appropriation	295,600	402,270	-	697,870	425,136	417,766
2026 President's Budget	-	273,248	-	273,248	267,548	397,399
Change from 2025	(295,600)	(129,022)	-	(424,622)	(157,588)	(20,367)

a/ Total Resources may not tie to the Budget Appendix due to rounding.

b/ 2024 Carryover includes \$5.5 million in recaptures.

c/ 2024 Adjustments reflect the rescission of \$65 million in prior year unobligated balances.

d/ 2025 Carryover includes \$250 thousand in recaptured funds.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) is primarily responsible for HUD's lead-based paint and healthy homes activities, including the administration of the Lead Hazard Reduction program authorized by Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992. The OLHCHH's mission is to provide safe and healthy homes for families and children at-risk of lead exposure and other housing-related health hazards. OLHCHH funds grants to States, Tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations that reduce lead-based paint hazards and other housing-related health and safety hazards in homes of low-income families, and funds technical studies to develop and evaluate cost-effective methods to protect children and their families from health and safety hazards in the home. OLHCHH also enforces HUD's lead-based paint regulations and provides outreach and technical assistance.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2026 President's Budget does not request new budget authority for the Lead Hazard Reduction program, eliminating spending of \$295.6 million compared to the 2025 Enacted level. HUD would use its estimated \$273.2 million in unobligated balances for grants in 2026.

JUSTIFICATION

Funding Impact

Using funding available in 2026 from carryover, HUD would make approximately 23,600 homes of low-income families healthy and safe. OLHCHH's grants executed using the carryover funds would benefit over 39,600 children by reducing elevated blood lead levels, asthma prevalence, and the likelihood of other illnesses and injuries. In the long term, lead remediation can mitigate the social costs of lifelong medical expenses, increased criminal activity, and lost productivity that would otherwise occur due to childhood lead poisoning. The Aging in Place Modification Program, executing grants using the carryover funds, would improve the quality of life for over 8,800 low-income seniors by helping them stay in their homes as they age.

Outcomes, Performance Indicators, and Other Evidence

The major performance indicator of accomplishments is the number of housing units of low-income families made lead-safe and/or healthy under its grant programs. For each OLHCHH grant program, the following table shows the estimated cost per unit treated and the estimated number of units to be treated under grants executed in 2026 using carryover funds:

Grant Program	Estimated Cost per Housing Unit Treated	Estimated # of Treated Homes with Carryover Funding Available in 2026
Lead Hazard Reduction	\$14,000	6,300
Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration	\$14,000	6,100
Healthy Homes Supplements to LHR and LHRD	\$4,000	10,700
Healthy Homes Production	\$4,600	2,200
Healthy Homes and Weatherization Cooperation Demonstration	\$5,100	1,000
Aging in Place Modification	\$5,000	6,400
[Urban and suburban communities; est. max. # units]	\$5,000	[4,200]
[Substantially rural communities; est. min. # units]	\$5,000	[2,200]
Radon Testing and Mitigation Resident Safety	\$3,200	600

Note: Both the cost and number are estimates rounded to hundreds; due to rounding, some products may not correspond precisely with estimated funding levels.

HUD measures program success by meeting or exceeding the production targets of treated homes, which are homes that are made lead-safe and healthy through the grant programs. Grantees report the number of treated homes to the OLHCHH in quarterly reports (plus ad hoc reporting) through the Office's web-based Healthy Homes Grant Management System (HHGMS).

Past and current research under the OLHCHH's Technical Studies programs and other research have demonstrated the effectiveness of the Office's approaches for identifying and addressing housing-related hazards. These standards have been used by HUD and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in developing and evaluating their lead safety policies and programs, by HUD in developing and revising its lead safety guidelines and its lead and healthy homes grant program guidance documents, and by trainers of lead and healthy homes professionals and contractors in their training materials. Technical Studies grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts would be used to continue HUD's significant progress in reducing or eliminating lead paint and other health hazards in homes in 2026.

Key Assumptions

For the Lead Hazard Reduction and Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration grant programs, the projected production of lead-safe housing units assumes an average per-unit cost of \$14,000 in 2026, \$2,000 more than in 2024. This reflects anticipated increased costs associated with the more stringent end-of-project cleaning and clearance testing required by the amended EPA dust-lead rule published in November 2024. The rule is expected to be effective in 11 States in January 2026 and the rest of the Nation in January 2027.

Administration Priorities

OLHCHH's use of carryover funds for its programs in 2026 would advance health benefits for children and their families, consistent with the goals of the President's Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Commission created by Executive Order (EO) 14212 of February 13, 2025. The Commission's purpose "includes fresh thinking on... environmental impacts." The work to eliminate lead paint and other health hazards in homes helps meet the President's goal of improving the health of American children. HUD seeks to address environmental factors such as lead, mold, and pests. Lead hinders children's nervous system development, while mold and pests contribute to chronic diseases such as asthma. HUD recognizes the need to address specific health concerns by leveraging proven hazard mitigation and abatement strategies and focusing on primary prevention.

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES BY PROGRAM

(Dollars in Thousands)

Budget Activity	2024 Budget Authority	2023 Carryover Into 2024	Adjustments	2024 Total Resources	2024 Obligations	2025 Appropriation	2024 Carryover Into 2025	2025 Total Resources	2026 President's Budget
Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program	95,000	358,774	(65,000)	388,774	46,560	95,000	178,639	273,639	-
Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program	105,000	159,728	-	264,728	313,280	105,000	105,000	210,000	-
Lead Hazard Reduction Capacity Building	-	31,535	-	31,535	31,535	-	-	-	-
Technical Studies and Assistance	3,000	9,900	-	12,900	6,726	3,000	6,424	9,424	-
Healthy Homes	110,000	64,316	-	174,316	118,836	110,000	79,348	189,348	-
Healthy Homes - DOE Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) [Non-Add]	5,000	5,000	-	10,000	2,000	5,000	5,206	10,206	-
Aging in Place Modification Grants	30,000	30,520	-	60,520	10,000	30,000	30,000	60,000	-
Radon Testing and Mitigation Resident Safety Demonstration	2,000	5,046	-	7,046	4,187	2,000	2,859	4,859	-
Unobligated Prior Year Balances Made Available	(49,400)	49,400	-	-	-	(49,400)	-	(49,400)	-
Total	295,600	709,219	(65,000)	939,819	531,124	295,600	402,270	697,870	-

a/ The 2023 Carryover into 2024 column includes \$4 million in recaptures in the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program and \$1.5 million in recaptures in Healthy Homes.

b/ The 2024 Budget Authority column includes the use of \$49.4 million in unobligated prior year balances made available by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-42).

c/ The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-42) also permanently rescinded \$65 million in prior year balances.

d/ The 2025 Budget Authority column includes the use of \$49.4 million in unobligated prior year balances made available by the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4).

e/ The 2024 Carryover into 2025 column includes \$250 thousand in recaptured funds in the Technical Studies and Assistance program.