

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Policy Development and Research

FY2023 and FY2024 Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships FR-6700-N-USP 06/30/2025

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Policy Development and Research

Funding Opportunity Title:

FY2023 and FY2024 Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships

Funding Opportunity Number:

FR-6700-N-USP

Assistance Listing Number:

14.506

Notice of Expiration Date:

06/30/2025

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) issues this Notice to announce that it has authority to accept unsolicited research proposals that address the current research priorities, which are included in this Notice. In accordance with statutory requirements, the research proposals must be submitted by eligible applicants and provide cost sharing of at least 50 percent of total project cost from philanthropic entities or Federal, state, or local government agencies. This Notice also announces that HUD is accepting research proposals for such research partnerships and provides a general description of information that should be included in any research proposal. Any organization that expects to submit a proposal to HUD should carefully read all information in this Notice to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible proposal. Failure to respond accurately to any submission requirement could result in an incomplete or ineligible proposal.

For further information regarding this Notice, direct questions regarding the specific requirements of this Notice to the agency contact identified in section VII.

Dates: Proposals may be submitted at any time on or before this Notice's expiration date. Proposals will be evaluated as they are received. Available funds will be awarded as proposals are received, evaluated, and approved, until funds are exhausted. HUD encourages applicants to submit proposals as early as possible to maximize the number of awards HUD can fund with amounts made available under this Notice that are subject to expiration.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501- 3520) (PRA), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the information collection requirements in this notice. HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. This Notice identifies its applicable OMB control number, unless its collection of information is excluded from these requirements under 5 CFR part 1320.

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Program Description

1. Purpose

HUD developed the Research Partnerships vehicle to allow greater flexibility in addressing evidence gaps concerning strategic policy questions and to better utilize external expertise in evaluating effectiveness of programs affecting residents of urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas, as well as local innovations in the delivery of these programs. Through the effective period of this Notice, HUD can accept unsolicited research proposals that address current research

priorities and allow innovative research projects that could inform HUD's policies and programs. Applicants are encouraged to submit research proposals that inform important policy and program objectives of HUD that are not otherwise being addressed, that focus on one of HUD's research priorities, and that make effective use of HUD's funding. Review section I.A.2. of this Notice for details on HUD's priorities and research assets.

For the purpose of this Notice, a valid unsolicited proposal must: (1) be innovative; (2) be independently originated and developed by the offeror; (3) be prepared without Federal Government supervision, endorsement, direction, or direct Federal Government involvement; (4) include sufficient detail to permit a determination that Federal Government support could be worthwhile and the proposed work could benefit the agency's research and development or other mission responsibilities; (5) include sufficient detail to permit a determination that the Federal Government's support would yield a valuable return on investment; (6) not be an advance proposal for a known agency requirement that can be acquired by competitive methods; (7) not be a result of a previous competitive announcement; and (8) not be a concept paper.

2. HUD and Program-Specific Goals, Objectives, and Priorities

This Notice supports <u>HUD's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2022-2026</u> to accomplish HUD's mission and vision. Each of the five goals in the <u>Strategic Plan</u> include what HUD hopes to accomplish, the strategies to accomplish those objectives, and the indicators of success. However, of the five goals only those applicable to this Notice are identified below.

You are expected to align your proposal to the applicable strategic goals and objectives below. Use the information in this section to describe in your proposal the specific goals, objectives, and measures that your proposal is expected to help accomplish. If your proposal is selected for funding, you are also expected to establish a plan to track progress related to those goals, objectives, and measures. HUD will monitor compliance with the goals, objectives, and measures in your proposal.

Applicable Goals and Objectives from HUD's Strategic Plan

1. Strategic Goal 1: Support Underserved Communities

Fortify support for underserved communities and support equitable community development for all people.

- 2. Strategic Goal 2: Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing Ensure housing demand is matched by adequate production of new homes and equitable access to housing opportunities for all people.
- 3. Strategic Goal 3: Promote Homeownership

Promote homeownership opportunities, equitable access to credit for purchase and improvements, and wealth-building in underserved communities.

4. Strategic Goal 4: Advance Sustainable Communities

Advance sustainable communities by strengthening climate resilience and energy efficiency, promoting environmental justice, and recognizing housing's role as essential to health.

A. Research Priorities

<u>HUD's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2022-2026</u> is the most recent integration of diverse stakeholder viewpoints into a five-year research and learning agenda. The Learning Agenda, like prior Research Roadmaps, focuses HUD's research resources on timely, policy-relevant research

questions that address strategic evidence gaps and lie within the Department's area of comparative advantage. This focus on comparative advantage means that HUD and PD&R need to collaborate with other research organizations in areas that are mutually important. HUD also seeks independent research that will help the Department support communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality and that advances equity, civil rights, racial justice, and equal opportunity consistent with the Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government (January 20, 2021).

The Learning Agenda identifies a number of research questions that PD&R is considering for the near future and that align with Departmental Priorities in <u>HUD's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years</u> (FY) 2022-2026. The following are examples of priority research topics by Strategic Goal, which could be addressed through collaborative research:

- 1. **Support Underserved Communities** Areas of interest include: a) studies on how best to support economic mobility and wealth-building for HUD-assisted households, including closing wage, credit, and opportunity gaps related to race, national origin, disability, gender, and other protected classes; b) studies on effective strategies for reducing the prevalence and length of homeless episodes; addressing youth, veteran, and formerly incarcerated person homelessness; supporting populations who may benefit from specialized services, such as individuals with severe mental illness, substance use disorders, or other physical and/or mental disabilities; reducing unsheltered homelessness; and ensuring equitable access to homelessness assistance; and c) studies on how segregation and areas of minority concentration should be defined so that HUD, local and state governments, and housing developers can best work toward ensuring that housing is located in non-segregated areas of opportunity.
- 2. Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing Areas of interest include: a) studies on how to improve the effectiveness of rental assistance for families of different configurations, sizes, and needs; how to increase participation by private sector owners, including owners with accessible units and those in well-resourced areas of opportunity; how to increase housing choice and geographic mobility for assisted renters; particularly for racial minorities and other protected classes; how to decrease racial segregation; how to ensure housing quality and accessibility; and how to promote long-term housing stability; b) studies related to the identification of barriers to affordable and inclusive housing; studies that explore how local, state, and federal policies affect the cost, availability, and equity of housing for low-income renters and first-time homebuyers; and studies of strategies to increase the affordable housing supply, for example in well-resourced areas of opportunity that are not minority concentrated, with access to high quality schools and employment opportunity and for underserved populations; c) research on how recipients of federal funds can better affirmatively further fair housing as required by the Fair Housing Act; d) studies related to the equity and impact of conversion, preservation, and replacement housing programs, such as the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD); and e) studies on the types of best practices Public Housing Agencies can implement when recruiting HCV landlords of accessible units such as improving outreach methods to make accessible HCV units better known to households with tenant-based vouchers and identifying and removing barriers for households with tenant-based vouchers in search of units with accessibility features.

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- 3. **Promote Homeownership** Areas of interest include: a) studies on initiatives and strategies that increase homeownership and wealth-building opportunities for lower income Americans and underserved communities, that close the racial homeownership gap, that support wealth-building and reduce risk of default and foreclosure, and/or that address financial challenges facing specific populations (e.g., people of color, students, individuals with disabilities, individuals with criminal histories, and older adults); and b) research on opportunities to reform and modernize housing finance systems.
- 4. Advance Sustainable and Equitable Communities Areas of interest include: a) studies that expand energy-efficient and climate-resilient housing options in public and assisted housing, which serves primarily very low-income households and large shares of people of color, yet is often more vulnerable to climate change due to locations, aging infrastructure, and historic disinvestment; b) studies on assessing the risk posed by disasters to HUD's assisted housing stock and insured mortgage portfolio, historically underserved populations, and socially vulnerable populations; on the extent of disparities in administration, receipt, amounts, and priority of assistance based on race, national origin, disability, and other protected characteristics, and on what policy changes could reduce these disparities; on increasing the effectiveness of disaster assistance for homeowners, renters, low-income, and minority communities; c) studies on building capacity to enhance the resilience of communities and homes to mitigate the risk and effects of disasters, pestilence, energy shocks, and public health emergencies; and d) studies on environmental justice, including whether protected classes experience disproportionate hazards, health risks, and substandard housing and what policy changes could reduce these disparities.

In addition, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes has identified the following research priorities related to the control of lead hazards and other hazards in homes under the Healthy Homes Initiative:

- 5. Lead Hazards Research into lead health hazards other than lead-based paint hazards (i.e., lead in deteriorated paint, dust, and soil) and strategies to mitigate or eliminate them (note: this includes evaluation of the impact of policies), except as provided in the last sentence of this paragraph. HUD is interested in supporting novel research on the identification and control of lead exposures from residential drinking water; the evaluation and control of residential lead exposures from legacy industrial emissions and wastes (e.g., near Superfund and state-equivalently-designated sites); factors inhibiting, and effective low-cost methods of increasing, blood lead screening and testing rates among young children in public and other HUD-assisted housing in high-risk states or communities; and modeling of geographic, socioeconomic, and other distributions of factors correlated with high risk of increased blood lead levels in children and subsequent validation of models. Funding for research on other lead safety topics other than those identified above, namely, on the identification and control of residential lead-based paint hazards is only available annually through HUD's Lead Technical Studies Grant Program (Assistance Listing No. 14.902).
- 6. **Other hazards** HUD's healthy homes program includes assessing and controlling key residential health and safety hazards. These conditions include pest infestation, mold and excess moisture, indoor air contaminants such as radon and secondhand tobacco smoke, and injury hazards. An important area of research need for several of these issues is

evaluation of the incorporation of practices, shown to be effective in research settings, into programmatic and residential building management practices. HUD is also interested in the potential benefits of management practices and requirements such as smoke-free housing policies and integrated pest management (or combinations of these practices) for the health of residents (e.g., residents with asthma, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), etc.). Evaluation of programs or demonstrations in which healthcare payers (e.g., managed care organizations) or providers support home assessment and mitigation of housing-related health and safety hazards is also an area of interest to HUD. Funding for research on residential health and safety issues is also available annually through HUD's Healthy Homes Technical Studies Grant Program (Assistance Listing No. 14.906).

HUD's Research Partnerships program has produced innovative research that makes significant contributions to HUD's learning agenda. For example, "Childhood Housing and Adult Earnings" used advanced methods to understand how housing assistance programs improve long-term economic outcomes for disadvantaged children. "What Happens to Housing Assistance Leavers?" used data from the Moving to Opportunity demonstration to address the major evidence gap about reasons tenants exit assisted housing and what happens to them. "HOPE VI: Data Compilation and Analysis" significantly enhanced data availability for this important community revitalization program. "Advancing the Use of Cold-Formed Steel in the Housing Industry" measured the earthquake resistance of full-scale steel-frame buildings using shake tables. "Brokering the Geography of Opportunity" is examining how landlords affect access of assisted renters to high-quality housing and neighborhoods. These projects and many others are documented at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/oup/research_partnerships.html#impact-overview.

The authority that Congress provided HUD to enter into noncompetitive cooperative agreements for research is an important tool for fulfilling the Learning Agenda's vision for leveraging evidence-building assets through research collaboration and other means. Potential research partners are encouraged to develop research proposals that fill evidence gaps, inform important and emerging policy and program objectives of HUD that are not otherwise being addressed, support HUD's strategic objectives and program effectiveness consistent with the 2022–2026 Strategic Plan, and leverage HUD's data and research assets. In preparing such proposals, researchers also are encouraged to consider and support PD&R's core principles and practices for research—rigor, relevance (including relevance for underserved communities), transparency, independence, ethics, and technical innovation—as described in the "HUD Program Evaluation Policy Statement" (FR Doc. 2021-44738).

B. HUD Research Assets

HUD has made, and continues to make, significant investments in "Research Assets," as described below, including program demonstrations and the production of datasets and data linkages. HUD is interested in studies that make use of HUD's Research Assets, as such studies demonstrate a broader usefulness of the Assets and increase the return on these investments for the taxpayer. In considering potential research partnerships, HUD urges organizations to consider ways to take advantage of HUD's Research Assets to address data and evidence gaps.

1. <u>HUD demonstrations</u>. HUD values demonstrations as a method for evaluating new policy and program initiatives and significantly advancing evidence-based policy, especially

when rigorous random-assignment methods are feasible. HUD is interested in research opportunities that take advantage of completed and ongoing demonstrations. For example, researchers continue to answer relevant policy questions using data generated by the Moving to Opportunity demonstration. Examples of demonstrations that are underway or recently completed include the Family Options Study, the Rental Assistance Demonstration, the First-Time Homebuyer Education and Counseling Demonstration, the Moving To Work Demonstration, the Rent Reform Demonstration, and the Community Choice Demonstration. Electronic versions of published HUD research can be found at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/research/home.html.

- 2. <u>HUD data, analysis, and reporting infrastructure.</u> HUD makes significant investments to improve and support the nation's housing data, so submitting institutions are encouraged to consider opportunities to use HUD-sponsored survey data and administrative data. The <u>American Housing Survey</u> (AHS) is one of HUD's largest research investments. The AHS provides a wealth of data on the size and composition of the nation's housing inventory that researchers could use more effectively to address questions about housing market dynamics.
- 3. HUD administrative data linkages.
 - PD&R has partnered with the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) to longitudinally link HUD's administrative records for rental assistance participants with the National Health Interview Survey, the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, and associated NCHS linked files for Medicare, Medicaid, and mortality data. These data resources are available through the NCHS research data centers.
 - 2. HUD and the Census Bureau have entered into an interagency agreement to link data from demonstrations and administrative systems with survey data and other administrative records. PD&R encourages research partnerships that effectively use data assets through public use data or restricted access arrangements with Census or NCHS research data centers. Further information is available at: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/pdrdatas landing.html.

<u>Data License Applications and Data-Only Requests.</u> To access restricted-use HUD data without a funding request, researchers may obtain a HUD data license provided their research aligns with HUD priorities. A copy of the <u>data license application</u> is available from the HUD USER research portal. Applications may be submitted to HUD by e-mail to <u>DataLicense@hud.gov</u>. Data license applications will be forwarded to the appropriate PD&R office for review and approval. HUD does not require researchers to obtain a data license to use the HUD-NCHS linked datasets, but a HUD research partnership can support waivers of NCHS fees for the research data center if a research proposal is accepted by NCHS.

Other Goals and Objectives

HUD is interested in increasing participation of Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) of higher education and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in all program areas. Therefore, HUD seeks proposals from MSIs and HBCUs as well as from eligible entities that are not themselves MSIs and HBCUs but have developed a partnership with one or more MSIs and/or HBCUs.

3. Changes from Previous Notice

This FY 2023 Notice makes changes from FY 2022 Notice in the following sections:

Section. I.A. Program Description – This section includes new definitions: Cooperative Agreement, Equity, Minority-Serving Institutions, Racial Equity, Resilience, and Underserved Communities. The following definition has been removed: DUNS.

Section III.D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements – Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) is removed. However, AFFH remains an application requirement under section IV.G. of the Notice.

Section III.E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility – This section is updated to include applicable eligibility requirements. The Notice supplemental document related to eligibility requirements is also updated and posted on HUD's Funding Opportunity webpage.

Section III.F. Program-Specific Requirements – This section is updated to emphasize one requirements, to support the priorities in HUD's FY2022-FY2026 Strategic Plan: Advancing Racial Equity.

Section IV.B. Content and Form of Application Submission – This section is updated to require form HUD 424-B (Applicant Assurances and Certifications). Also, the notes related to the SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities is updated to note types of organizations excluded from the submission requirement.

Section IV.G. Other Submission Requirements – This section is updated to include additional submission requirements related to Code of Conduct, and required forms HUD 424-B and HUD 2280. This section also includes instructions to complete Federal Assistance Assurances.

Section V.A. Review Criteria – This section is updated to encourage proposals from or in partnership with HBCUs and MSIs.

Section V.B. Review and Selection Process – This section is updated to include a new requirement to ensure applicants have Experience Promoting Racial Equity.

Section VI.B. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Applicants and Recipients of Financial Assistance Awards – This section is updated to include compliance with: Secretary Fudge April 12, 2022 memorandum; equity requirements; and waste, fraud, and abuse requirements. Additionally, this section clarifies requirements related to nondiscrimination and equal opportunity. The related Notice supplemental document is updated and posted on HUD's Funding Opportunity webpage. Furthermore, this section is updated to require program details related to its termination policy.

Section VI.C.2. Racial, Ethnicity and Other Data Reporting – This section is updated to make clear the applicant's requirement to document and keep on file racial and other demographic data related to beneficiaries.

Federal Relay Service – This Notice is updated to replace references to Federal Relay Service with use of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) relay services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or who have speech disabilities.

4. Definitions

a. Standard Definitions

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination to overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunities, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all program participant's activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.

Assistance Listing Number refers to the unique number assigned to each Federal assistance program publicly available in the Assistance Listing, which is managed and administered by the General Services Administration. The Assistance Listing number was formerly known as the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number.

Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) is a person authorized to legally bind your organization and submit proposals via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) in the System for Award Management (see E-Biz POC definition). An AOR may include an Expanded AOR and/or a Standard AOR.

Expanded Authorized Organization Representative is a user in Grants.gov who is authorized by the E-Biz POC to perform the functions of a Standard AOR, initiate and submit proposals on behalf of your organization, and is allowed to modify organization-level settings and certifications in Grants.gov.

Standard Authorized Organization Representative is a user in Grants.gov who is authorized by the E-Biz POC to initiate and submit proposals in Grants.gov. A Grants.gov user with the Standard AOR role can only submit proposals when they are a Participant for that workspace.

Consolidated Plan is the document submitted to HUD that serves as the comprehensive housing affordability strategy, community development plan, and submission for funding under any of the Community Planning and Development formula grant programs (e.g., CDBG, ESG, HOME, and HOPWA). This Plan is prepared in accordance with the process described in 24 CFR part 91. 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 HUD's requirements regarding the Consolidated Plan and related Action Plan).

Contract means, for the purpose of Federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a federal award. For additional information on contractor and subrecipient determinations, see <u>2 CFR 200.331</u>.

Contractor means an entity that receives a contract as defined above and in 2 CFR 200.1.

Cooperative Agreement has the same meaning defined at 2 CFR 200.1.

Deficiency, with respect to determining proposal funding, is information missing or omitted within a submitted proposal. Examples of deficiencies include missing documents, missing or

incomplete information on a form, or some other type of unsatisfied information requirement. Depending on specific criteria, a deficiency may be either Curable or Non-Curable.

A Curable Deficiency is missing or incomplete proposal information that may be corrected by the proposal submission. To be curable, the deficiency must:

- Not be a threshold requirement, except for documentation of applicant eligibility;
- Not influence how a proposal is scored; and
- Be remedied within the time frame specified in the notice of deficiency.

A Non-Curable Deficiency is missing or incomplete proposal information that cannot be corrected after the proposal submission. A non-curable deficiency is a deficiency that is a threshold requirement, or a deficiency that, if corrected, would change a proposal score. If a proposal includes a non-curable deficiency, the proposal may receive an ineligible determination, or the non-curable deficiency may otherwise adversely affect the final funding determination.

E-Business Point of Contact (**E-Biz POC**) is an organization applicant who is responsible for the administration and management of grant activities for his or her organization. The E-Biz POC is likely to be an organization's chief financial officer or authorizing official. The E-Biz POC authorizes representatives of their organization to apply on behalf of the organization (see Authorized Organization Representative definition). There can only be one E-Biz POC per unique entity identifier (see definition of Unique Entity Identifier below).

Eligibility Requirements are mandatory requirements for a proposal to be eligible for funding.

Environmental Justice means investing in environmental improvements, remedying past environmental inequities, and otherwise developing, implementing, and enforcing laws and policies in a manner that advances environmental equity and provides meaningful involvement for people and communities that have been environmentally underserved or overburdened, such as Black and Brown communities, indigenous groups, and individuals with disabilities. This definition does not alter the requirements under HUD's regulations at 24 CFR 58.5(j) and 24 CFR 50.4(l) implementing Executive Order 12898. E.O. 12898 requires a consideration of how federally assisted projects may have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and/or low-income populations. For additional information on environmental review compliance, refer to:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/environment_energy/regulations.

Equity has the meaning given to that term in Section 2(a) of Executive Order 13985 and means the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

Federal Award, has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraphs (1) or (2) of this definition:

(1)

- (a) The Federal financial assistance that a recipient receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or a subrecipient receives indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in 2 CFR 200.101; or
- (b) The cost-reimbursement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulations that a non-Federal entity receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in <u>2 CFR 200.101</u>.
- (2) The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (2) of the definitions of Federal financial assistance in <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>, and this Notice, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the Federal Acquisition Regulations.
- (3) Federal award does not include other contracts that a Federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate Federal Government owned, contractor operated facilities (GOCOs).
- (4) See also definitions of Federal financial assistance, grant agreement, and cooperative agreement in <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>.

Federal Financial Assistance has the same meaning defined at <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>.

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 on Grants.gov is required for submission of proposals to prospective agencies unless otherwise specified in this Notice.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are 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 of Education 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. A list of accredited HBCUs can be found at the U.S. Department of Education's website.

Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) are

- (1) a part B institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1061);
- (2) a Hispanic-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1101(a)(5));
- (3) a Tribal College or University (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059c);
- (4) an Alaska Native-serving institution or a Native Hawaiian-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059d(b));
- (5) a Predominantly Black Institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059e);
- (6) an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059g); or
- (7) a Native American-serving nontribal institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059f).

Non-Federal Entity (NFE) means a state, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE), or non-profit organization that carries out a federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

Primary Point of Contact (PPOC) is the person who may be contacted with questions about the proposal submitted by the AOR. The PPOC is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

Racial Equity is the elimination of racial disparities, and is achieved when race can no longer predict opportunities, distribution of resources, or outcomes – particularly for Black and Brown persons, which includes Black, Latino, indigenous, Native American, Asian, Pacific Islander, and other persons of color.

Recipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a federal award directly from HUD. The term recipient does not include subrecipients or individuals that are beneficiaries of the award.

Resilience is a community's ability to minimize damage and recover quickly from extreme events and changing conditions.

Small Business is defined as a privately-owned corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship that has fewer employees and less annual revenue than regular-sized business. The definition of "small"—in terms of being able to apply for government support and qualify for preferential tax policy—varies by country and industry. The U.S. Small Business Administration defines a small business according to a set of standards based on specific industries. See 13 CFR Part 121.

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 pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a 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.

Subrecipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a federal award but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other federal awards directly from a federal awarding agency.

System for Award Management (SAM) is the Federal Repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Registration with SAM is required for submission of proposals via Grants.gov. You can access the website at https://www.sam.gov/SAM/. There is no cost to use SAM.

Threshold Requirements are eligibility requirements that must be met for a proposal to be reviewed, rated, and ranked. Threshold requirements are not curable, except for documentation of applicant eligibility, which are listed in Section III.D., Threshold Eligibility Requirements. Similarly, there are eligibility requirements under Section III.E., Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

Underserved Communities has the meaning given to that term in Section 2(b) of Executive Order 13985 and refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the definition of "equity" above.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify business entities. As of April 4, 2022, the Federal government has transitioned from the use of the DUNS Number to the use of UEI, as the primary means of entity identification for Federal awards government-wide.

b. Program Definitions.

Application vs. Proposal may be used interchangeably to be consistent with the language in Grants.gov. Your proposal, with the required forms, will be the document you submit for consideration.

Principal Investigator is lead author of the proposal, of the research design, and of the final report.

B. Authority

This program is authorized by Sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. §1701z-1 and §1701z-2). Funding for this program is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328, approved December 29, 2022) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103, approved March 15, 2022).

II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Available Funds

Funding of approximately \$3,000,000 is available through this Notice.

Subject to appropriations, HUD reserves the right to award fiscal year 2024 funds based on this Notice.

Additional funds may become available for award under this Notice consistent with section VI.A.2.c., Adjustments to Funding. Use of these funds is subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the funding restrictions contained in this Notice.

The \$3,000,000 for awards in support of activities under this Notice is divided as follows:

- 1. Up to \$2,000,000 available for Lead and Healthy Homes Research Partnerships as described in Section I.A.2.A, Research Priorities 5 and 6.
- 2. Approximately \$1,000,000 is available for Research Partnerships for other topics as described in Section I.A.2.A, Research Priorities 1-4.

If HUD's review of proposals for either Research Partnerships category does not result in the selection of eligible proposals that would use the entire allotment, HUD will reallot the unused funds for other purposes authorized under the respective appropriations.

B. Number of Awards

The number of awards will be based on the number of eligible proposals HUD receives, reviews, approves, and funds.

HUD reserves the right to reject all proposals, make no awards under this announcement, or make fewer or more awards than anticipated.

C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information

There are no minimum or maximum award amounts. A notification will be sent to applicants that request funding in amounts exceeding the remaining available funds; the notification will note that, either the proposal could be funded contingent upon funding in a future funding year with such future funding being at HUD's discretion, or that the applicant will have to revise the proposal to apply for a reduced amount for up to the remaining available funds if the applicant wishes the review process to continue.

D. Period of Performance

The period of performance will be determined by the applicant's proposal and is subject to statutory restrictions on appropriated funds allotted to this Program and HUD's discretion following negotiation with the applicant.

E. Type of Funding Instrument

Funding Instrument Type:

CA (Cooperative Agreement)

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Applicants

25 (Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification))

Additional Information on Eligibility

Eligible applicants under this Notice include: philanthropic entities, other Federal agencies, State or local governments and their agencies, Indian Tribes, tribally-designated housing entities, colleges or universities located in the United States. Financial proposals may not include a line for profit because successful applicants may not earn profit under their financial arrangements with HUD.

For the purposes of this Notice, HUD defines a philanthropic entity as one among the subset of 501(c)(3) organizations whose articles of incorporation or other organizational documents include the direct funding of research activities and other charitable purposes. These include private foundations, educational institutions that may have a separate foundation, public charities, and operating foundations. A philanthropic entity must identify and provide, as part of its proposal, the specific part of its articles of incorporation or other organizational documentation establishing it as a philanthropic entity.

B. Ineligible Applicants

Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible to compete for, or receive awards made under this announcement.

C. Cost Sharing or Matching

This Program requires cost sharing or matching as described below.

Cost sharing is required for research projects to be eligible for funding through HUD's non-competitive cooperative agreement authority. Research projects submitted by all eligible applicants must include at least 50 percent match toward the total cost of the project. Federal funds are generally not allowed to be used for match unless otherwise permitted by that specific federal program's authorizing statute.

<u>Certification of Match or Cost-Sharing:</u> If an institution offers the salaries of one or more researchers as part or all of the required match, the match will be valid only to the extent that the institution can quantify the extent to which it will release the researcher(s) from other duties without compensation from the grant. The Authorized Individual must provide certification in the proposal package.

Example 1: Professor A has a normal teaching load of 4 preparations per semester and a service load of 2 committees. She proposes to reduce the load to 2 preparations and 1 committee for the duration of the grant. The university proposes that her total salary would be unchanged, but a cost equal to the cost of one preparation and one committee would be charged against the grant. The valid match from her university would then be the cost of one preparation per semester.

Example 2: Researcher C has ongoing responsibilities in connection with 3 projects (unrelated to the proposed project) that pay for 75 percent of his time; the remainder of his time is spent on a fourth unrelated project that the organization has been supporting from its own overhead. The organization proposes that his total salary would be unchanged, but he will stop spending his time on the fourth project and instead charge 10 percent of his time to the Research Partnership grant. The valid match from the organization's institutional overhead would then be 15 percent of his salary.

Evidence of Cost Sharing. You must provide documentation of all match indicated in your budget by letters of firm commitment, such as a letter on the organization's letterhead, Memoranda of Understanding or other signed agreements from those entities identified as partners in the proposal. All commitment documents MUST clearly identify the dollar amount, the source(s) of the funds, and the proposed uses that comply with the requirements of this Notice and be signed by the authorized official. All matching funds must be used within the period of performance.

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, set forth in 2 CFR part 200, shall apply to this Federal award. Cost sharing or matching means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds (unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute). Applicants should refer to 2 CFR 200.306 for specific requirements.

D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements

Applicants who fail to meet any of the following threshold eligibility requirements are deemed ineligible. Proposals from ineligible applicants are not evaluated and will not receive HUD funding.

1. Resolution of Civil Rights Matters

Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved before the proposal submission deadline. Applicants with unresolved civil rights matters at the proposal submission deadline are deemed ineligible. Proposals from ineligible applicants are not reviewed or evaluated and will not receive HUD funding.

a. An applicant is ineligible for funding if the applicant has any of the charges, cause determinations, lawsuits, or letters of findings referenced in subparagraphs (1) –
(5) that are not resolved to HUD's satisfaction before or on the proposal submission deadline date for this Notice.

- 1. Charges from HUD concerning a systemic violation of the Fair Housing Act or receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing law proscribing discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), national origin, disability or familial status;
- 2. Status as a defendant in a Fair Housing Act lawsuit filed by the United States alleging a pattern or practice of discrimination or denial of rights to a group of persons raising an issue of general public importance under 42 U.S.C. 3614(a);
- 3. Status as a defendant in any other lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice, or in which the Department of Justice has intervened, or filed an amicus brief or statement of interest, alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Violence Against Women Act, or a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair housing, non-discrimination, or civil rights generally including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing;
- 4. Receipt of a letter of findings identifying systemic non-compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; Violence Against Women Act; or the Americans with Disabilities Act; or
- 5. Receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of provisions of a state or local law prohibiting discrimination in housing based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or lawful source of income.
- b. HUD will determine if actions to resolve the charge, cause determination, lawsuit, or letter of findings taken before the proposal deadline date will resolve the matter. Examples of actions that may be sufficient to resolve the matter include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Current compliance with a voluntary compliance agreement signed by all the parties;
 - 2. Current compliance with a HUD-approved conciliation agreement signed by all the parties;
 - 3. Current compliance with a conciliation agreement signed by all the parties and approved by the state governmental or local administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter;
 - 4. Current compliance with a consent order or consent decree;
 - 5. Current compliance with a final judicial ruling or administrative ruling or decision; or

6. Dismissal of charges.

The requirements under Section III.E. of the Notice also affect threshold eligibility.

2. Timely Submission of Proposals

Proposals submitted after the deadline stated within this Notice that do not meet the requirements of the grace period policy are marked late. Late proposals are ineligible and are not considered for funding. See Section IV. D. Proposal Submission Dates and Times.

Proposals are due 11:59 p.m. Eastern time, June 30, 2025.

E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility

Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Financial Assistance Programs

The following requirements affect applicant eligibility. Detailed information on each requirement is found in the "Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Financial Assistance Programs" document on HUD's Funding Opportunities page.

- Universal Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Requirements
- Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts
- Debarments or Suspensions, or both
- Mandatory Disclosure Requirement
- Pre-selection Review of Performance
- Sufficiency of Financial Management System
- False Statements
- Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities

In addition, each applicant under this Notice must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the Award Term in Appendix A of <u>24 CFR part 170</u> if the applicant receives an award, unless an exception applies as provided in <u>2 CFR170.110</u>.

F. Program-Specific Requirements

Advancing Racial Equity

In accordance with Executive Order <u>13985</u>, *Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*, and federal fair housing and civil rights laws, you must submit a narrative demonstrating the following:

- You analyzed the racial composition of the persons or households who are expected to benefit from your proposed grant activities;
- You identified any potential barriers to persons or communities of color equitably benefiting from your proposed grant activities;
- You detailed the steps you will take to prevent, reduce or eliminate these barriers; and
- You have measures in place to track your progress and evaluate the effectiveness of your efforts to advance racial equity in your grant activities.

Note that any actions taken in furtherance of this section must be consistent with federal nondiscrimination requirements.

This narrative is required and must address the four elements outlined above. Given the nature of this research Notice, when it asks applicants to identify the racial composition of persons or households who are expected to benefit, applicants should consider the persons or households who will be the subject of the research or likely to benefit from the outcome of the research under this Notice. This narrative must be a paragraph or more in length. Applicants will submit according to the instructions in Section IV.B (Application and Submission Information, Content and Form). This narrative will be evaluated for sufficiency. If the narrative is deemed insufficient, it will be a "Curable Deficiency" that will be communicated to the applicant for correction with a notice of deficiency.

IV. PROPOSAL AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Obtain a Proposal Package

Instructions for Applicants

All materials to submit a proposal, including the Application Instructions and Application Package, are available through Grants.gov. You must access and review all available materials. You must submit your proposal electronically via Grants.gov under the Funding Opportunity Number cited within this Notice. Your proposal must list the applicable Funding Opportunity Number.

All proposals must go through Grants.gov. After you submit your proposal through Grants.gov, you must email your Grants.gov confirmation number to researchpartnerships@hud.gov, to ensure receipt of your proposal. No proposals will be accepted in this mailbox.

You can request a waiver from the requirement for electronic submission, if you demonstrate good cause. An example of good cause may include: a lack of available Internet access in the geographic area in which your business offices are located. However, lack of SAM registration or valid UEI is not a good cause. If you cannot submit your proposal electronically, you must ask in writing for a waiver of the electronic grant submission requirements. HUD will not grant a waiver if you fail to submit to HUD in writing or via email a request for a waiver at least 15 calendar days before the Notice's expiration date. If HUD grants a waiver, a paper proposal must be received before the Notice's expiration date. To request a waiver, you must contact:

Name:

Carol Gilliam

Email:

carol.d.gilliam@hud.gov

HUD Organization:

PD&R

Street:

451 7th Street SW, Room 8226

City:

Washington

State:

DC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Zip: 20410

B. Content and Form of Proposal Submission

You must verify that boxes 11, 12, and 13 on the SF-424 match the Notice for which you are applying. If they do not match, you have downloaded the wrong Application Instruction and Application Package.

Submission of a proposal that is otherwise sufficient, under the wrong Assistance Listing and Funding Opportunity Number is a Non-Curable Deficiency, unless otherwise stated under the Threshold requirements section.

1. Content

Forms/Assurances/Certific ations	Submissio n Requireme nt	Notes/Description
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	Review section IV.G. of this Notice for detailed submission requirements.	
Applicant and Recipient Assurances and Certifications (HUD 424-B)	Review section IV.G. of this Notice for detailed submission requirements.	
Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report (HUD 2880)	Review section IV.G. of this Notice for detailed submission requirements.	
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)		Federally recognized Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by federally recognized Indian tribes as a result

Forms/Assurances/Certific ations	Submissio n Requireme nt	Notes/Description
		of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage of the Byrd Amendment, but state-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established only under state law shall comply with this requirement.
Federal Assistance Assurances	Review section IV.G.2. of this Notice for detailed submission requiremen ts.	
HUD 424-CBW		The HUD 424CBW is included within the application package for this Notice and online at https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCHCO/documents/424-CBW.xls . The instructions file (424-CBW-I) to complete HUD 424-CBW form is included in the application package and online at https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCHCO/documents/424-CBW-I.xlsx .

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

Proposals must contain sufficient information for PD&R to identify whether the research would meet statutory requirements for cost sharing and alignment with the research priorities identified in Section I.A of this Notice. At a minimum, proposals must include:

- 1. <u>Proposal Abstract</u>. Applicants must include a Proposal Abstract or cover page with the project title, the names and affiliations of all investigators, identification of the Research Priority, a narrative summary of the research, objectives, study design and expected results, and the total amount of funds requested.
- 2. <u>Points of Contact</u>. Applicants must clearly identify the name of the entity(s) submitting the proposal and provide detailed contact information for the point of contact, including but not limited to email address.
- 3. <u>Key Personnel</u>. Applicants must provide information on key personnel/principle staff who will be engaged with the project. HUD will assess the qualifications of key

personnel to carry out the proposed activity as evidenced by academic and professional background, publications and recent (within the past five years) research experience. A summary of relevant literature, including thorough citations, should be included. Each resume shall not exceed three pages and is limited to information that is relevant in assessing the qualifications and experience of key personnel to conduct and/or manage the proposed study. The proposed Principal Investigator must directly represent and be compensated directly by the applicant for his or her role in the proposed study. Publications and/or research experience are considered relevant if they required the acquisition and use of knowledge and skills that can be applied in the planning and execution of the technical study that is proposed.

- 4. <u>Research Proposal Description</u>. Applicants must provide a clear narrative description of the research project, including the proposed methodology, and its alignment with PD&R Research Priorities and HUD's Strategic Plan. The proposal description should include the following specific components:
 - 1. A clear and thorough description of the proposed study, its data sources and design, and its major objectives.
 - 2. A presentation of the research as a logical sequence of steps or phases, with individual tasks described for each phase.
 - 3. A summary of relevant literature, including thorough citations, that supports the selection of the research topic, formulation of research questions, selected research methodologies, and hypothesis to be tested. Your proposed study will be judged in part on the soundness of the underlying body of research and other authorities upon which it is based and the clarity and soundness of your summary and interpretation of this research base.
 - 4. A description of the methodological and statistical basis for your study design, and a demonstration that you would have adequate statistical power to test your stated hypotheses and achieve your study objectives.
 - 5. A discussion of plans for data management, analysis, and archiving.
 - 6. Identification of any important "decision points" in your study plan.
 - 7. A list and description of deliverables, such as draft and final reports.
 - 8. A demonstration that it is clearly feasible to complete the study within the proposed period of performance and achieve your objectives.
 - 9. A description that responds to the requirements in this Notice's section III.F., Advancing Racial Equity.
 - 10. A description that responds to the requirements in this Notice's section IV.G.1., Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.
 - 11. A description that responds to the requirements in this Notice's section V.B.3., Experience Promoting Racial Equity.
 - 12. Certification by Offeror: To ensure that an offeror's contacts with agency employees do not exceed the limits of acceptable preliminary contacts and therefore result in an unfair advantage, its unsolicited proposal must include the following:

Certification by Offeror

This is to certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that: (a) this proposal has not been prepared under Federal Government supervision. (b) The methods and approaches stated in the proposal were developed by this offeror. (c) Any contact with employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development has been within the limits of section 103 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3537a) and its implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 4, subpart B. (d) No prior commitments were received from departmental employees regarding acceptance of this proposal.

Date.	
Organization:	
Name:	

Title:

Date:

(A responsible official of the proposing organization or a person authorized to contractually obligate the organization shall sign this certification).

- 5. Cost Share/Match. Additionally, provide documentation of all match indicated in your budget by letters of firm commitment, such as a letter on the organization's letterhead, Memoranda of Understanding or other signed agreements from those entities identified as partners in the application. All commitment documents MUST clearly identify the dollar amount, the source(s) of the funds, and the proposed uses that comply with the requirements of this Notice and be signed by the authorized official.
- 6. <u>Budget.</u> Applicants must provide detailed sources and uses of the budget with line items that show the amount of the HUD funding and the contributions of any partners (cost sharing component) and/or the submitting institution. HUD strongly encourages using form HUD–424CBW to detail your budget request. The form is an attachment to this Notice. Proposals for research partnerships that have already received an award as part of a grant competition (or the proposal was submitted, and a decision is pending) are not eligible for a non-competitive cooperative agreement.

2. Format and Form

Narratives and other attachments to your proposal must follow the following format guidelines. Do not submit password protected or encrypted files.

Other

Your abstract, resumes, research proposal description, and any other attachments to your application with page limits must follow the following formats:

- 1. 8-1/2 x 11-inch pages, with a minimum margin width of 1 inch on all sides, with limits of 1 page for the abstract, 3 pages for each resume, and 25 pages for the research proposal description, and with at least the narrative pages numbered. Reference pages are not included in the 25-page limit.
- 2. Minimum 12-point Times New Roman font single (or larger) line spacing.
- 3. A budget submitted on a Form HUD 424-CBW for the proposed period of performance. The budget must clearly reflect the HUD and Match amounts.

4. Other Considerations: Potential research partners are encouraged to develop research proposals that fill evidence gaps, inform important and emerging policy and program objectives of HUD that are not otherwise being addressed, support HUD's strategic objectives and program effectiveness, and leverage HUD's data and research assets.

C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

1. SAM Registration Requirement

You must register with https://www.sam.gov/before submitting a proposal. You must maintain current information in SAM on immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable. Information in SAM must be current for all times during which you have an active Federal award or a proposal or plan under consideration by HUD.

2. UEI Requirement

As of April 4, 2022, entities doing business with the federal government must use the UEI created in SAM.gov. Also, you must provide a valid UEI, registered and active at www.sam.gov/ in the application. For more information, see: <a href="https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-systems-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update.

3. Requirement to Register with Grants.gov

Anyone planning to submit proposals on behalf of an organization must register at Grants.gov and be approved by the E-Biz POC in SAM to submit proposals 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. Any organization that submits a proposal without a valid registration cannot apply through Grants.gov. Complete registration instructions and guidance are provided on Grants.gov.

D. Proposal Submission Dates and Times

1. Proposal Due Date Explanation

Proposals may be submitted at any time from the date of this Notice until 11:59:59 PM Eastern time on

06/30/2025

HUD evaluate proposals as they are received. Available funds will be awarded as proposals are received, evaluated, and approved, until funds are exhausted. HUD encourages applicants to submit proposals as early as possible to maximize the number of awards HUD can fund with amounts made available under this Notice that are subject to expiration.

Proposals must be received via Grants.gov no later than the Notice's expiration date. If HUD has issued you a waiver allowing you to submit your proposal in paper form, HUD must receive your paper proposal no later than

06/30/2025

Submit your proposal to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit a paper proposal. Instructions for submitting your paper proposal 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 timestamp each proposal 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.

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

"Validated by Grants.gov" means the proposal has been accepted and was not rejected with errors. You can track the status of your proposal by logging into Grants.gov, selecting "Applicants" from the top navigation, and selecting "Track my application" from the dropdown list. If Grants.gov shows the application status is "rejected with errors," you must correct the error(s) and resubmit the proposal before the 24-hour grace period ends. Proposals 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 applying.

HUD strongly recommends you submit your proposals at least **48 hours before this Notice's expiration date** and during regular business hours to allow enough time to correct errors or overcome other problems.

2. Grants.gov Customer Support

Grants.gov provides customer support information on its website at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html. If you have difficulty accessing the system and instructions or have technical problems, contact Grants.gov customer support center by calling (800) 518-GRANTS (this is a toll-free number) or by sending an email to support@grants.gov. The customer support center is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, except Federal holidays. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech and other communication disabilities may use a relay service to reach Grants.gov Customer Support. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, visit the webpage for Federal Communications Commission.

3. Grants.gov Proposal Submission

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

- 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 proposal, click the Download link in the Actions column.

Take note of the Grants.gov tracking number, as it is needed by the Grants.gov customer support center should you seek their assistance.

HUD may extend this Notice's expiration date for any program if Grants.gov is offline or not available to applicants for at least 24 hours immediately prior to the expiration date of this Notice, 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 Notice's expiration date 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 publish the extension on Grants.gov.

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 proposal.

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.

4. Amending or Resubmitting a Proposal

Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated proposals through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised proposal containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted proposal must be received and validated by Grants.gov before the Notice expiration date.

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

5. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions

If your proposal is received by Grants.gov before the expiration date, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of 24 hours after the Notice's expiration date to submit a corrected, received, and validated proposal through Grants.gov. The date and time stamp on the Grants.gov system determines the proposal receipt time. Any proposal submitted during the grace period but not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper proposals.

6. Late Proposals

A proposal received after the Notice expiration date that does not meet the Grace Period requirements will be marked late and will not be reviewed by HUD for funding consideration. Improper or expired registration and password issues are not sufficient causes to allow HUD to accept proposals after the expiration date.

7. Corrections to Deficient Applications

HUD will not consider information from applicants after the Notice's expiration date except for curable deficiencies.

HUD will uniformly notify applicants of each curable deficiency. See curable deficiency definition in section I.A of this Notice. 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 organization representative identified on the SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance via email. This email is the official notification of a curable deficiency.

You must email corrections of Curable Deficiencies to 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.

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

8. Authoritative Versions of HUD NOFOs

The version of this Notice posted on Grants.gov includes the official documents HUD uses to announce proposals.

9. Exemptions

Parties that believe the requirements of the Notice would impose a substantial burden on the exercise of their religion should seek an exemption under the <u>Religious Freedom Restoration Act</u> (RFRA).

E. Intergovernmental Review

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

F. Funding Restrictions

Dissertation Research. None of the funds may be made available for a doctoral dissertation research grant program.

Protection of Human Research Subjects. HUD requires successful applicants to comply with requirements of the federal Common Rule for protecting human research subjects (24 CFR part 60) when applicable. Compliance may require grantees to seek review and approval of research plans by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) "that is registered with the Department of Health and Human Services Office for Human Research Protections (https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp)." For

research requiring an IRB review, work plans shall identify the IRB that the awardee will use and factor in the necessary cost and time involved in that review. HUD will require awardees to provide appropriate written assurances and certifications of compliance before human subject research begins.

Privacy. Submission of any information to databases (whether website, computer, paper, or other format) of personal identifiable information (PII) is subject to the protections of the Privacy Act of 1974. You should also check to ensure you meet state and local privacy regulations.

Indirect Cost Rate

General requirements. Normal indirect cost rules under 2 CFR part 200, subpart E apply. If you intend to charge indirect costs to your award, your proposal must clearly state the rate and distribution base you intend to use. If you have a Federally-negotiated indirect cost rate, your proposal must also include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. If an organization receives an award under this Notice and that organization's rate changes after the proposal deadline, it must submit the new rate and documentation to assure the award agreement incorporates the applicable rate.

Specific requirements for organizations other than State and local governments. If you have a Federally-negotiated indirect cost rate, your proposal must clearly state the approved rate and distribution base and must include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. If your organization does not have a current negotiated rate (including a provisional rate) and elects to use the de minimis rate, your proposal must clearly state you intend to use the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC), as defined at 2 CFR 200.1. Costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both, as described in 2 CFR 200.403. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until the organization chooses to negotiate a rate, which the organization may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

Specific requirements for State and local governments. If your department or agency unit has a Federally-negotiated indirect cost rate, your proposal must include that rate, the applicable distribution base, and a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate. If your department or agency unit receives more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year, you may not claim indirect costs until you receive a negotiated rate from your cognizant agency for indirect costs as provided in Appendix VII to 2 CFR part 200.

If your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and your department or agency unit has developed and maintains an indirect cost rate proposal and supporting documentation for audit in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, you may use the rate and distribution base specified in that indirect cost rate proposal.

Alternatively, if your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate, you may elect to use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC. As described in 2 CFR 200.403, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until your department or agency chooses to negotiate for a

rate, which you may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

G. Other Submission Requirements

1. Standard Application, Assurances, Certifications and Disclosures

Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Application for Federal Assistance

The SF-424 is the government-wide form required to apply for Federal assistance programs, discretionary Federal grants, and other forms of financial assistance programs. You must complete and submit the form with the other required forms and information as directed in this Notice.

By signing the forms in the SF-424 either through electronic submission or in paper copy submission (for those granted a waiver), you and the signing authorized organization representative affirm that you both have reviewed the certifications and assurances associated with the proposal for Federal assistance and (1) are aware the submission of the SF-424 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 organization representative to the proposal 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 proposal 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 proposal submission, including those applicable to all applicants, those applicable only to Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaskan native villages and those applicable to applicants other than Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaskan native villages.

Assurances (HUD 424-B)

By submitting your proposal, you provide assurances that, if selected to receive an award, you will comply with U.S. statutory and other requirements, including, but not limited to civil rights requirements. All recipients and subrecipients of the award are required to submit assurances of compliance with federal civil rights requirements. *See, e.g.*, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Violence Against Women Act, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; *see also* 24 C.F.R. §§ 1.5; 3.115; 8.50; and 146.25. HUD accepts these assurances in the form of the HUD 424-B, which also require compliance with HUD Reform Act requirements and all general federal nondiscrimination requirements in the administration of the federal assistance award.

Applicant Disclosure Report Form 2880 (HUD 2880)

The form HUD 2880 is required if you are applying for assistance within the jurisdiction of HUD to any project subject to Section 102(d) of the <u>HUD Reform Act</u>. Assistance is provided directly by HUD to any person or entity, but not to subrecipients. It includes assistance for the acquisition, rehabilitation, operation, conversion, modernization, renovation, or demolition of any property containing five or more dwelling units that is to be used primarily for residential

purposes. It includes assistance to independent group residences, board and care facilities, group homes and transitional housing but does not include primarily nonresidential facilities such as intermediate care facilities, nursing homes and hospitals. It also includes any change requested by a recipient in the amount of assistance previously provided, except changes resulting from annual adjustments in Section 8 rents under Section 8(c)(2)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f). See HUD Reform Act regulation for additional information.

Code of Conduct

Both you, as the award recipient, and all subrecipients must have a code of conduct (or written standards of conduct). The code of conduct must comply with the requirements included in the "Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards" section of the Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards, as well as any program-specific requirements. These requirements include ethical standards related to conflicts of interest for procurements in 2 CFR 200.318(c) and 2 CFR 200.317, as well as HUD-specific conflict of interest standards. HUD maintains a list of organizations that have previously submitted written standards of conduct on its Code of Conduct for HUD Grant Programs webpage, but it is your responsibility to ensure that the standards are compliant with the noted requirements and that HUD has the latest version of the written standards. Updated written standards should be submitted with the proposal. Any updates to your written standards, after the proposal submission, should be submitted as directed by the HUD program contact for this Notice.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

With some exceptions for Federally recognized Indian tribes and their instrumentalities, the proposal must include a narrative that discusses how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations, and how applicants will meet the requirements of the definition of AFFH at 24 CFR 5.151. Applicants should discuss meaningful actions that will address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunity, replace segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transform racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and foster and maintain compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. Applicants may propose activities that are consistent with their jurisdiction's Analysis of Impediments (AI), an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), or other means of fair housing planning that meaningfully supports their AFFH certification.

If the applicant will carry out proposed activities in a jurisdiction with an AFH, the proposed activities should be consistent with the AFH's fair housing goals and with fair housing strategies specified in the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan or Public Housing Agency Plan.

Applicants must describe how their proposed research is aligned with AFFH requirements in the Research Proposal Description described in section IV.B. This is a required narrative that may be a paragraph or more in length and will be reviewed for sufficiency.

2. Other Program-Specific Requirements

Federal Assistance Assurances. To assure compliance with statutory requirements for non-construction grant programs, you must complete the Federal Assistance Representations and Certifications section of your sam.gov registration. HUD and OMB use information reported within sam.gov for general management of Federal assistance awards programs. For more

information on how to update your sam.gov registration, visit SAM.gov or the Federal Service Desk, FSD.gov. You can search for help at FSD any time or request help from an FSD agent Monday–Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

V. PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Review/Evaluation Criteria

Proposals that meet all the eligibility, threshold, and certification requirements will be eligible for technical review in accordance with the evaluation criteria below. Proposals meeting eligibility, threshold and certification requirements will be evaluated on the following:

- 1. How well the proposed project informs one of the research priorities described in Section I.A.2.A. of this Notice, in HUD's Learning Agenda, or in HUD's Strategic Plan;
- 2. Whether the research methodology described is appropriate for addressing the proposed research question and likely to yield useful research results relevant to a HUD policy or program;
- 3. Whether the proposed project includes a realistic budget and time frame, including justification for how HUD resources will be used;
- 4. Whether the proposed research activities justify the full amount of resources requested in the proposal; and
- 5. Whether the demonstrated experience and capacity of the research team is sufficient to complete the proposed project successfully.

Proposals will be reviewed by Subject-Matter Experts (SMEs) who are knowledgeable in the field covered by the research proposal. In reviewing applications, HUD will consider the strength of the individual application as well as the overall funding available.

Proposals from HBCUs and MSIs

Proposals from HBCUs and MSIs are strongly encouraged, but HUD does not offer any related preferences in its review/evaluation process.

This program does not offer any preferences.

However, you may choose to voluntarily commit to include policy initiatives in your proposal. Including these policy initiatives is not a requirement to apply for or receive an award. If you choose to include a voluntary policy initiative in your proposal, however, you will be required to adhere to the information submitted with your proposal should you receive an award. The proposed information will be included as a binding requirement of any federal award you receive as a term or condition of that award.

HBCUs

HUD strongly encourages proposals from applicants designated by the U.S. Department of Education as Historically Black Colleges or Universities (HBCUs), when the proposals include documentation of the applicant's status as an HBCU. Click here to view the list of accredited HBCU's.

HUD strongly encourages proposals from organizations partnering with a Historically Black College or University (HBCU), when the proposals include a Letter of Commitment certifying that an HBCU Partnership is in place and signed by an authorizing official of the HBCU and

documentation of the college or university's status as an HBCU. <u>Click here to view the list of</u> accredited HBCU's.

Proposals from HBCUs are strongly encouraged, but HUD does not offer any related preferences in its review/evaluation process.

Minority-Serving Institutions

HUD strongly encourages proposals from organizations designated by the U.S. Department of Education as an MSI, when the proposals include documentation of the applicant's status as an HBCU, Hispanic-serving institution, Tribal-controlled postsecondary institution, Alaska Native-serving or Native-Hawaiian-serving institution, Predominantly Black Institution, Asian and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution or Native American-serving nontribal institution.

HUD strongly encourages proposals from organizations partnering with an HBCU, Hispanic-Serving Institution, Tribal-controlled postsecondary institution, Alaskan Native-serving or Native-Hawaiian-serving institution, Predominantly Black Institution, Asian and Pacific Islander-serving institution, or Native American-serving nontribal institution, when the proposals include a Letter of Commitment certifying that a partnership is in place and signed by an authorizing official of the MSI and documentation of the college or university's status as an HBCU, Hispanic-serving institution, Tribal-controlled postsecondary institution, Alaska Native-serving or Native-Hawaiian-serving institution, Predominantly Black Institution, Asian and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, or Native American-serving nontribal institution.

Proposals from MSIs are strongly encouraged; however, HUD does not offer any related preferences in its review/evaluation process.

B. Review/Evaluation Process

1. Past Performance

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

OMB-designated repositories of governmentwide data, as noted in 2 CFR 200.206(a)

The ability to account for funds in compliance with applicable reporting and recordkeeping requirements

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

Timely completion of activities and receipt and expenditure of promised matching or leveraged funds

The number of persons served or targeted for assistance

Promoting self-sufficiency and economic independence

Producing positive outcomes and results

Whenever possible, HUD will obtain and review past performance information. If this review results in an adverse finding related to integrity of performance, HUD reserves the right to take any of the remedies provided in the <u>Pre-Selection Review of Performance section of the Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD Financial Assistance Programs.</u>

2. Assessing Applicant Risk

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

- (1) Financial stability;
- (2) Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
- (3) 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, failing to make significant progress in a timely manner, failing to meet planned activities in a timely manner, 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;
- (4) 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
- (5) The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

Two types of reviews will be conducted:

- 1. A threshold review to determine an applicant's basic eligibility; and,
- 2. A technical review for all proposals that pass the threshold review, to evaluate and consider funding a proposal based on the "Review/Evaluation Criteria" listed in section V.A. of this Notice.

Only those proposals that pass the threshold review will receive a technical review and be considered for funding with the available funds.

3. Experience Promoting Racial Equity

In evaluating proposals for funding, HUD will consider the extent to which the proposal demonstrates that the applicant has the experience and the resources to effectively address the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities. This may include experience successfully working directly with such groups, experience designing or operating programs that equitably benefit such groups, or experience successfully advancing racial equity in other ways. This may also include experience soliciting, obtaining, and applying input from such groups when designing, planning, or implementing programs and activities.

Applicants should describe how they have experience conducting research working directly with Black and Brown communities or designing research to advance equity, by submitting a

narrative that is a paragraph or longer as part of the Research Proposal Description requirement described under Section IV.B.

4. Anticipated Announcement and Award Date

Available funds will be awarded as proposals are received, evaluated, and approved, until funds are exhausted.

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 proposals were received by the deadline but were not chosen for award.

1. Negotiations and Final Grant

After HUD has made selections, a HUD Grants Officer may negotiate specific terms of the funding agreement and budget with the selected applicant. If HUD and the selected applicant do not successfully conclude negotiation in a timely manner, or the selected applicant fails to provide requested information, the applicant will not be awarded. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant.

2. Adjustments to Funding

HUD reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in a proposal.

- a. HUD may fund no portion of a proposal that:
 - 1. Is ineligible for funding under applicable statutory or regulatory requirements;
 - 2. Fails, in whole or in part, to meet the requirements of this Notice;
 - 3. Duplicates activities funded by other federal awards; or
 - 4. Duplicates activities funded in a prior year.
- b. If an applicant turns down an award offer, or if HUD and an applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, HUD may withdraw the award offer and make an offer of funding to another eligible proposal.
- c. If additional funds become available either through the current appropriations, a supplemental appropriation, other appropriations or recapture of funds during the Notice period, HUD may, in accordance with the appropriation, fund additional proposals.
- d. If funds remain after the Notice's expiration date, remaining funds may be made available within the current FY for other competitions within the program area, or be held for future competitions (if allowable in accordance with the applicable appropriation or authorizing statute), or be used as otherwise provided by authorizing statute or appropriation.

B. Administrative, National and Departmental Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Applicants and Recipients of Financial Assistance Awards

Unless otherwise specified, the following <u>Administrative</u>, <u>National and Department Policy</u> <u>Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards</u> for FY2023 apply. Failure to comply with these requirements may impact your ability to receive or retain a financial

- assistance award from HUD. Read the requirements carefully as the requirements are different among HUD's programs.
- 1. Compliance with The Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100 et seq
- 2. Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, <u>42 U.S.C. 2000d-2000d-4</u> (Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs) and implementing regulations at <u>24 CFR</u> part 1
- 3. Compliance with the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146
- 4. Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8
- 5. Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq
- 6. Compliance with Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) requirements, including those listed on HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing webpage
- 7. Compliance with Economic Opportunities for Low-and Very Low-income Persons (Section 3) requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR part 75
- 8. Compliance with Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requirements, including those listed within <u>Federal Register Notice</u>, <u>FR-4878-N-02</u> (also see <u>HUD's webpage</u>)
- 9. Compliance with Accessible Technology requirements, including those listed on in <u>HUD's</u> Policy on Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and Accessible Technology
- 10. Compliance with Equal Access Requirements (see 24 CFR 5.105(a)(2) and 5.106)
- 11. Compliance with Ensuring the Participation of Small Disadvantaged Business, and Women-Owned Business requirements at 2 CFR 200.321
- 12. Compliance with Energy Efficient, Sustainable, Accessible, and Free from Discrimination by Design
- 13. Compliance with Real Estate Acquisition and Relocation requirements (see 49 CFR part 24 and applicable program regulations)
- 14. Compliance with Participation in HUD-Sponsored Program Evaluation (see <u>Federal Register</u> Notice, FR-6278-N-01)
- 15. Compliance with OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (see <u>2 CFR part 200</u>)
- 16. Compliance with Drug-Free Workplace requirements (see <u>2 CFR part 2429</u>, which is HUD's implementation of <u>41 U.S.C. 701</u>, et seq.)
- 17. Compliance with the requirements related to safeguarding resident/client files
- 18. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (2 CFR part 170) (FFATA), as amended
- 19. Compliance with Eminent Domain
- 20. Compliance with Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities requirements on <u>HUD's Disability Overview</u> webpage
- 21. Compliance with Violence Against Women Act at <u>24 CFR part 5</u>, subpart L and applicable program regulations
- 22. Compliance with Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards/Code of Conduct, including <u>2 CFR 200.317</u>, <u>2 CFR 200.318(c)</u> and other applicable conflicts of interest requirements
- 23. Compliance with the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act procurement requirements

and implementing guidance available on HUD's dedicated webpage

- 24. Compliance with System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements at 2 CFR part 25
- 25. Compliance with section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 USC 7104(g)) and implementing regulations at 2 CFR part 175 (Award Term for Trafficking in Persons)
- 26. Compliance with Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters (see Appendix XII to 2 CFR part 200)
- 27. Compliance with Suspension and Debarment (see 2 CFR part 2424 and 2 CFR part 180)
- 28. Compliance with environmental justice requirements under Executive Orders <u>12898</u> and <u>14008</u>, and OMB Memorandum <u>M-21-28</u>, which implements the Justice40 Initiative, section 223 of Executive Order <u>14008</u>.
- 29. Compliance with Eliminating Barriers That May Unnecessarily Prevent Individuals with Criminal Histories from Participation in HUD Programs (see HUD Secretary Fudge's April 12, 2022 memorandum)
- 30. Compliance with equity requirements, which include compliance with racial equity and underserved communities and LGBTQ+ requirements under Executive Orders 13985 and 13988 31. Compliance with waste, fraud, and abuse requirements, including whistleblower protections (see HUD's webpage)

Environmental Review

Other

- 1. For PD&R Research Partnership Initiative (Section I.A.2.A, Research Priorities 1-4). In accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(1), (3) and (5) activities funded under this Notice are exempt or categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321) and not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities.
- 2. For Lead and Healthy Homes Research Partnerships (Section I.A.2.A, Research Priorities 5-6)

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

a. Eligible Construction and Rehabilitation Activities. An award does not constitute approval of specific sites where activities that are subject to environmental review may be carried out. The provisions of section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994, implemented by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58, "Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities," are applicable to properties assisted with funds for activities under Section 1.A.2.A, Research Priorities 5-6 of this Notice. Therefore, recipients (other than Federal agencies) conducting eligible construction and rehabilitation activities must comply with 24 CFR part 58. Recipients that are States, units of general local government or Native American tribes must carry out environmental review responsibilities as a responsible entity under part 58. Recipients that are academic or not-for-profit institutions or specialized units of local government must contact and partner with a non-recipient responsible entity, usually the unit of general local government or Native American tribe, to assume the environmental review responsibilities for construction or rehabilitation activities funded (in whole or in part) under this Notice. Reasonable expenses incurred for compliance with these environmental requirements are eligible expenses under this Notice.

Under 24 CFR 58.11, where the recipient is not a State, unit of general local government or Native American tribe, if a responsible entity objects to performing the environmental review, or the recipient objects to the responsible entity performing the environmental review, HUD may designate another responsible entity to perform the review or may perform the environmental review itself under the provisions of 24 CFR part 50. When HUD performs the review itself, following award, HUD will be responsible for ensuring that any necessary environmental reviews are completed. Recipients that are Federal agencies must perform environmental review responsibilities under their environmental procedures.

b. For all cooperative agreements under this Notice, recipients and other participants in the project are prohibited from undertaking, or committing or expending HUD or non-HUD funds (including leveraged funds) on, a project or activities under this Notice (other than activities listed in 24 CFR 58.34, 58.35(b) or 58.22(f) until the responsible entity completes an environmental review and the applicant submits and HUD approves a Request for the Release of Funds and the responsible entity's environmental certification (both on Form HUD-7015.15) or, in instances where the recipient is not a State, unit of general local government or Native American tribe and HUD performs the environmental review under part 50, HUD has completed the review and notified the recipient of its approval, or, in instances where the recipient is a Federal agency, the agency has completed its environmental review. The results of the environmental reviews may require that proposed activities be modified, or proposed sites rejected. For Part 58 procedures, see https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmentalreview/. For assistance, contact Karen Griego, the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Program Environmental Clearance Officer at (505) 346-6462 (this is not a toll-free number) or the HUD Environmental Clearance Officer in the HUD Field Office serving your area. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech and other communication disabilities may use FCC relay services to reach this contact person. Recipients of an award under this program will be given additional guidance in these environmental responsibilities.

c. All other activities not related to construction or rehabilitation activities are exempt or categorically excluded under 24 CFR 50.19 (b)(1), (3), (5) and (9), and 24 CFR 58.34(a)(1), (3), (5), and (9) from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. § 4321) and are not subject to environmental review under the related environmental laws and authorities at 24 CFR 50.4.

Prohibition on Surveillance

Compliance with <u>2 CFR 200.216</u>, <u>Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment is required</u>.

Remedies for Noncompliance

HUD may terminate a Federal award, in whole or in part, for any of the reasons specified in 2 CFR 200.340, Termination.

Lead-Based Paint Requirements

When providing housing assistance funding for purchase, lease, support services, operation, or work that may disturb painted surfaces, of pre-1978 housing, you must comply with the lead-based paint evaluation and hazard reduction requirements of HUD's lead-based paint rules (Lead Disclosure; and Lead Safe Housing (24 CFR part 35)); and EPA's lead-based paint rules

(e.g., Repair, Renovation and Painting; Pre-Renovation Education; and Lead Training and Certification (40 CFR part 745)).

C. Reporting

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

1. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters

You should be aware that if the total Federal share of your federal award includes more than \$500,000 over the period of performance, the award will be subject to post award reporting requirements reflected in <u>Appendix XII to 2 CFR part 200</u>, <u>Award Terms and Conditions for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters</u>.

2. 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. These authorities prohibit discrimination in housing and in programs receiving financial assistance from the Department and direct the Secretary to administer the Department's programs and activities in a manner affirmatively to further these policies and to collect certain data to assess the extent of compliance with these policies. Each recipient shall keep such records and submit to the Department timely, complete, and accurate compliance reports at such times, and in such form and containing such information, as the Department may determine to be necessary to enable it to ascertain whether the recipient has complied or is complying with 24 CFR parts 1 and 121. In general, recipients should have available for the Department data showing the demographics of beneficiaries of federally-assisted programs.

3. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) as amended (FFATA)

FFATA requires information on federal awards be made available to the public via a single, searchable website, which is www.USASpending.gov. Accordingly, each award HUD makes under this Notice will be subject to the requirements provided by the Award Term in Appendix A to 2 CFR part 170, "REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION," unless the Federal funding for the award (including funding that may be added through amendments) is not expected to equal or exceed \$30,000. Requirements under this Award Term include filing subaward information in the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS.gov) by the end of the month following the month in which the recipient awards any sub-grant equal to or greater than \$30,000.

4. Program-Specific Reporting Requirements

This program requires 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.

Quarterly Progress Reports: Quarterly Progress Reports will document activities completed in the most recent reporting period, planned activities for the upcoming reporting period, and budget expenditures by line item (including hours worked for specific staff). Progress reports must be submitted quarterly and should be aligned with the submission of drawdown requests. Unless otherwise specified, quarterly progress reports shall be submitted to the GTR on the 15th of the first month of each quarter for the entire period of performance. If the 15th falls on a weekend or Government holiday, then the report should be submitted the first working day after the 15th. Alternative schedules or deadlines for progress reports should be approved in writing by the GTR. The report format should be approved by the HUD GTR. At a minimum, it should include a narrative summary of accomplishments, discussions of any deviations from the initial schedule of progress, and how those deviations impact the project and what the Grantee recommends for handling the deviation. Quarterly progress reports shall be accompanied by the SF-425 Federal Financial Report and documentation of costs incurred.

Draft Final Report: Draft Final Report must summarize the work conducted over the course of the project, present the study objectives, data sources, analysis methods, and results. The Draft Final Report is the key deliverable of the study and must serve as a standalone document that meets the overall objective of this project. The Draft Final Report should be edited and prepared for publication in accordance with HUD's Guidelines for Preparing a Report for Publication https://www.huduser.gov/portal/About/style-guide-for-reports.pdf

Final Report: Final Report must adequately address any HUD comments received for the Draft Final Report. This report is expected to be submitted just before the conclusion of the grant.

D. Debriefing

Not applicable.

VII. AGENCY CONTACT(S)

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this Notice. Questions regarding specific program requirements for this Notice should be directed to the agency contact listed below.

Name:

Leatha Blanks

Phone:

202-402-5821

Email:

leatha.m.blanks@hud.gov

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech and other communication disabilities may use a relay service to reach the agency contact. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, visit the webpage for the Federal Communications Commission. Note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their proposals.

VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the environment has been made for this Notice in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 50, which implement section

102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)). The FONSI is available for inspection at <u>HUD's Funding Opportunities web page</u>.

2. Web Resources.

- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
- Assistance Listing (formerly CFDA)
- Climate Action Plan
- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)
- Code of Conduct Requirements and E-Library
- Environmental Review
- Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations
- Fair Housing Rights and Obligations
- Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Subaward Reporting System
- Grants.gov
- Healthy Homes Strategic Plan
- Healthy Housing Reference Manual
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- HUD's Strategic Plan
- **HUD Grants**
- HUD Reform Act
- HUD Reform Act: HUD Implementing Regulations
- Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- NOFO Webcasts
- Procurement of Recovered Materials
- Promise Zones
- Section 3 Business Registry
- State Point of Contact List
- System for Award Management (SAM)
- Real Estate Acquisition and Relocation
- Unique Entity Identifier
- USA Spending

3. Program Relevant Web Resources

- HUD's Fiscal Years 2022-2026 Learning Agenda
- HUD Program Evaluation Policy Statement (FR Doc. 2021-44738)
- American Housing Survey
- National Center for Health Statistics
- Census Data
- Data License Applications and Data Only Requests
- Draft Final Report

APPENDIX