



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

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Special Attention of:  
Directors of HUD Regional and Field  
Offices of Public Housing;  
Agencies that Administer the  
Housing Choice Voucher Program

**Notice PIH 2018-07 (HA)**

Issued: May 18, 2018

Expires: This Notice remains in effect until  
Amended, superseded or rescinded.

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Cross References: Notice PIH 2015-10;  
*Implementation of the HUD-Veterans  
Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)  
Program* published in the *Federal Register*  
on March 23, 2012.

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**Subject: Registration of Interest for HUD-VASH Vouchers**

1. **Purpose.** The 2018 Appropriations Act provides \$40 million in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) funding that will support approximately 5,000 new HUD-VASH vouchers. The purpose of this notice is to identify public housing agencies (PHAs) with interest in receiving new HUD-VASH awards. These vouchers are administered in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and enable homeless veterans and their families to access affordable housing with an array of supportive services.

The vouchers are being made available from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (the Act) (Public Law 115-141), enacted March 23, 2018, as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

2. **Background.** The HUD-VASH program combines HUD Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the VA at its medical centers (VAMC) and community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). The VA facility refers all eligible HUD-VASH families to the PHA.

Generally, the HUD-VASH program is administered in accordance with 24 CFR Section 982 and 983 (in cases where VASH vouchers are project-based). However, the Act allows HUD (in consultation with the VA) to waive or specify alternative requirements for any provision of any statute or regulation that HUD administers in connection with this program in order to effectively deliver and administer HUD-VASH assistance (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such voucher assistance. Waivers and alternative requirements for HUD-VASH are detailed in the Revised Operating Requirements published in the *Federal Register* on March 23, 2012. This and other documents pertinent to the program can be found on the HUD-VASH website at:

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/vash](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/vash).

3. **Summary of Allocation Process.** Consistent with previous appropriations act provisions on HUD-VASH, the 2018 Act provides HUD (in consultation with VA) with broad authority to allocate HUD-VASH vouchers based on need. The process and requirements for the 2018 allocation are similar to the Fiscal Year 2017 allocation process. The specific changes made to the 2018 PIH Notice are as follows:

- Identifies the VA Gap Analysis as the underlying data source informing the relative need formula
- Establishes that the relative need formula will include a ceiling of 500 vouchers and a floor of 5 vouchers for each PHA
- Alerts PHAs that they will receive an automatic reply upon successful receipt of their Registration of Interest submission
- Establishes a six (6) month maximum delay when setting the effective date of award
- Informs PHAs that including any additional, unrequested materials is not necessary and will not be considered when determining need
- Changes the mailbox for submitting a Registration of Interest to VASH\_ROI@hud.gov

HUD will award tenant-based HUD-VASH to self-identified, interested PHAs based on geographic need. Awards will follow a two-step process: (1) PHAs will respond to this Notice with an email and a VA Letter of Support (Registration of Interest), and (2) Based on a relative need formula, using VA Gap Analysis data, registered PHAs will receive an invitation to apply for a specific number of HUD-VASH vouchers. This number is the maximum a PHA may ultimately receive.

All HUD-VASH awards can be converted to PBV at any time after award without notice to HUD, consistent with FR-5976-N-03 (HOTMA). However, because awards are initially made as tenant-based vouchers, effective dates for these awards must be within six (6) months of the award announcement.

Please carefully review the Notice in its entirety for Registration of Interest requirements.

4. **Amount Available.** The 2018 Appropriations Act provides \$40 million in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) funding that will support approximately 5,000 new HUD-VASH vouchers.

5. **Registration of Interest Due Date.** Registration of Interest must be transmitted no later than midnight in the time zone of the PHA on **July 2, 2018.**

**All Registration's of Interest must be submitted electronically to [VASH\\_ROI@hud.gov](mailto:VASH_ROI@hud.gov). See Section 7 for all Registration of Interest Requirements.**

6. **Eligible Applicants.** Any PHA currently administering a HCV program is eligible to submit a Registration of Interest (i.e., email and Letter of Support). This includes PHAs that do not currently administer the HUD-VASH program. Tribes/TDHEs and non-profit agencies that only administer HCV Mainstream vouchers, are not eligible to submit a Registration of Interest under this Notice.

7. **Registration of Interest Requirements.** PHAs **must** consult with their partnering VA facility to discuss their intentions of submitting a Registration of Interest and request a Letter of Support for HUD-VASH vouchers under this Notice. Letters of support do not need to include a specific number of vouchers requested. The number of vouchers offered is determined by the formula.

- PHAs must send an email to **VASH\_ROI@hud.gov** identifying that they are interested in receiving HUD-VASH vouchers.
- The Subject Line of the email should be “Registration of Interest” and the PHA code (i.e. AL001). The body of the email must identify the name of the partnering VAMC (or CBOC), the Veterans Integrated Services [VISN] number, and the facility’s Station ID. For example: Birmingham VA Medical Center, VISN 7, Station 521.
- All Registration’s of Interest **MUST** include a signed Letter of Support from the partnering VA facility.
  - **A valid letter of support from each partnering VA facility must accompany each email submission.** If a PHA partners with more than one VA facility, the PHA must submit *a separate email* with the signed letter of support for *each* VA facility that they are partnering with.
  - *A Registration of Interest submission without a valid, corresponding letter of support are not curable and will not be considered for an award.*
  - Any additional attachments beyond the required VA letter of support will NOT impact selection for an award.
- All Registration’s of Interest must be transmitted no later than midnight in the time zone of the PHA on **July 2, 2018**.
  - After a successful email transmission to **VASH\_ROI@hud.gov**, the sender will receive an “auto-reply” message, confirming receipt of an email. If you do not receive an “auto-reply” confirming receipt, your email was not received, and the agency will not be considered for an award. Faxes and hard copy submissions will not be accepted. **Note: receipt of an “auto-reply” message does not validate whether or not the Registration of Interest is complete.** Please review the Notice in its entirety to ensure all requirements are met.

PHAs are encouraged to consult with the Continuum of Care (CoC) lead agency to discuss their intention of submitting a Registration of Interest. CoC planning is a critical tool in identifying resources, assessing a community's capacity and developing solutions to challenges that the homeless families and children experience. *PHAs are not required to provide a letter of support from the lead CoC or CoC partnering agencies.*

8. **Selection of PHAs.** The allocation of HUD-VASH vouchers will be awarded based on a relative need formula incorporating the VA Gap Analysis of Continuum of Care (CoC) and local VA Medical Center (VAMC) data. Only PHAs that have submitted a complete Registration of Interest will be considered for an award.

In addition to submitting a complete Registration of Interest, PHAs, as required by the Act, must demonstrate the capacity to successfully administer the program. An agency's local HUD Field Office will assist in this determination. For example, PHAs must not have any major unresolved program management findings from an Inspector General audit, HUD management review, or Independent Public Accountant (IPA) audit for the PHA's HCV program, or other significant program compliance issues that were not resolved, or in the process of being resolved (as determined by the local field office) prior to invitation. Additionally, applicants must resolve all outstanding civil rights matters to HUD's satisfaction prior to invitation, provided that all applicable legal processes have been satisfied.

9. **Minimum/Maximum Number of Vouchers.** Based on an analysis of utilization trends, HUD is establishing a minimum and maximum number of vouchers offered under this Notice. Any single PHA may be invited to apply for a minimum of five (5) vouchers and up to five hundred (500) vouchers under this allocation; this is applicable to both new and existing administrators of the HUD-VASH program.

10. **Invitation of PHAs.** Selected PHAs will receive an invitation via email to apply for a specific number of HUD-VASH vouchers. This number is the maximum number of vouchers being offered. PHAs may apply for fewer vouchers. Additional instructions will be included in the invitation letter. Final award determinations will be at the discretion of HUD.

HUD may award any remaining funds via invitation to additional PHAs at any time based on availability and need.

11. **Information Contact.** All inquiries about this notice should be directed to [vash@hud.gov](mailto:vash@hud.gov).

12. **Paperwork Reduction Act.** The information collection requirements contained in this Notice have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C 3520). In accordance with the PRA, HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of

information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. The active information collections contained in this Notice have been approved under the PRA OMB Control Number 2577-0169.

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Dominique Blom  
General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and  
Indian Housing