

The HCV Connect

Program Updates, tools and tips to help with HCV Program administration.

April 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congress Appropriates Another Increase in HCV Funding for 2024

On March 8, 2024 Congress passed the 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act. HUD is committed to providing 2024 funding details through PIH notice by May 15th, 2024. We encourage PHAs to continue to utilize the [HCV Two-Year Projection Tool](#) for program decisions to maximize utilization and avoid shortfalls.

- [Video Explaining the HCV Funding Process](#). This short video explains the HCV Funding process and why it is critical that PHAs maintain leasing-- because it directly impacts the funding PHAs will receive next year.
- **Need more help planning for 2024?** [Your local HUD Field Office](#) is available to help generate and explain your PHA's Two-Year Tool.

FY 2024 Median Family Income and Income Limits

HUD has published FY 2024 Income Limits for the Housing Choice Voucher program effective April 1.

FY 2024 Income Limits

Reducing Barriers to HUD-Assisted Housing

On April 10, 2024, HUD published a proposed rule called, "[Reducing Barriers to HUD-Assisted Housing](#)" which identifies potential changes to HCV program regulations related to admissions and terminations policies. The proposed rule would amend the regulations that govern admission for applicants with criminal records and require PHAs to take into account the circumstances of the particular case before terminating assistance.

HUD seeks public comment on this proposed rule and invites all interested parties and members of the public to submit their views, comments, and recommendations for improvement on this proposal. Comments may be submitted electronically by **June 10, 2024**, through [Regulations.gov](#) or through the methods described in [the proposed rule](#).

Technical Assistance Available for New Small Area Fair Market Rent PHAs

HUD is making available numerous technical assistance opportunities for PHAs located in [newly](#) designated SAFMR areas. If you administer a PHA in a newly

designated mandatory SAFMR area, please contact your local HUD Field Office for free assistance adopting SAFMR. If you are not a mandatory SAFMR adopter, you can still take advantage of the technical assistance resources available on the [HUD SAFMR website](#).

HOTMA Resident Resources Available on HUD Exchange

We have fact sheets, worksheets and training materials available to help explain the HOTMA required changes to income and asset calculations for both Public Housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher Program participants. Materials are available in English and Spanish.

HOTMA Income and Assets – HUD Exchange

Enterprise Voucher Management System (eVMS)

PIH successfully disbursed the April Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) to 101 Wave 1 PHAs using PIC 50058 data. We are currently planning to onboard additional PHA's in the near future, so more details will be shared soon. As a reminder, the [eVMS website](#) includes the latest information on eVMS on-boarding.

We urge all PHAs to actively review and utilize the [PIC Error Dashboards](#) to improve reporting in preparation for eVMS. PHAs may also request up to 16 hours of FREE technical assistance from a third-party vendor by contacting their local PIH Field Office.

Click [HERE](#) to visit the eVMS Website

HCV Homeownership

On March 14, 2024, HUD hosted a virtual convening, bringing together the most successful PHAs administering HCV Homeownership Programs to share best practices and innovative ideas. Education, communication, and partnership were key themes, including making sure the PHAs, lenders and families fully understand the HCV Homeownership program and the importance of developing partnerships with each other. If you're interested in participating in future convenings please email us at HCV_Homeownership@hud.gov.

To learn more about how your PHA can expand housing opportunities through the HCV Homeownership program, please visit the [HCV Homeownership Program Website](#).

Conversion to NSPIRE Standards Effective October 1

Public housing agencies (PHAs) are reminded that they must have converted from the prior Housing Quality Standards (HQS), to the National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) Standards by October 1, 2024, for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and Project-Based Voucher (PBV) programs as announced in the [Federal Register](#).

PHAs that manage the HCV inspections can use their own inspection software to conduct NSPIRE inspections, or a checklist that HUD made available on the [NSPIRE website](#) that also includes tools, information and additional resources. Questions can be sent to NSPIRE@hud.gov.

Summer Nutrition Programs

The USDA's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally funded, state-administered program. USDA reimburses program operators who serve no-cost, healthy meals and snacks to children and teens. Meals are served as summer sites in low-income communities, where sponsors often also offer enrichment activities, grab-n-go, or delivery.

- Access the [Summer EBT Outreach Toolkit](#) to promote Summer EBT in your community.

[Click to Learn More](#)

EVENTS AND TRAININGS

Reminder of HCV Utilization Webinar Series

The third Thursday of every month from 2:00 to 3:00PM Eastern we host an HCV Utilization Webinar. These webinars are intended to update HCV Program Administrators and stakeholders on recent program changes and highlight best practices in program administration. Register for the webinars by clicking on the [Webinars and Trainings](#) icon at hud.gov/hcv. All past webinars are recorded and posted on [Past Trainings and Webinars](#).

The Next HCV Utilization Webinar is Thursday, April 18th

We will be providing an update on 2024 funding, details on new FYI funding opportunities, and reviewing the new [Source of Income Protections for HCV Holders Website](#).

[Click Here to Register](#)

Best Practices in Landlord Engagement

In case you missed it, the HCV Utilization webinar from February 15th focused on best practices in landlord engagement. The webinar included a summary of HUD's landlord engagement resources, and presentations from two PHAs about their experience in HCV landlord engagement.

[View Best Practices in Landlord Engagement](#)

Using YHDP with Foster Youth to Independence and Family Unification Program Vouchers

Register today and learn how YHDP projects can leverage partnerships with Public Child Welfare Agencies (PCWAs) and Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to utilize the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) and Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers as a pathway to housing. This webinar will also feature a panel discussion with HUD, Public and Indian Housing (PIH), CoCs, and PHAs representatives doing this work in Hennepin County, MN.

- [Using YHDP with Foster Youth to Independence and Family Unification Program Vouchers](#) (Apr 18th from 2:00 – 3:30 PM Eastern)

You must have an account with HUD Exchange to register. Follow these [instructions for registering](#).

Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Convenings

HUD, in partnership with the HHS Children's Bureau, will host regional action-oriented convenings to improve the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) program utilization, enhance local collaboration, and center the experience of youth and young adults. Regionally targeted registration and more detailed information about the convenings will be sent to PHAs administering FYI and serving youth through the Family Unification Program (FUP).

The following convening dates and locations have been finalized. PHAs that administer the FYI program in or around these locations should expect an invitation shortly.

- Denver, CO, May 16-17
- Philadelphia, PA, June 11-12
- Boston, MA, July 24-25
- Kansas City, MO, July 30-31
- Seattle, WA, August 15-16
- Miami, FL, September 17-18

Additional dates and locations to follow. For more information about these convenings, please email FYIConvenings@hud.gov. Additional details on the FYI program are available on the [FYI webpage](#).

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Stability Voucher Referral Form Now Available

To help PHAs and their CoC partners make improvements to their Stability Voucher (SV) referral process, HUD's TA provider CVR Associates has created a [Referral Form](#) that is now available on HUD Exchange. This optional form may be useful for CoC providers as they help SV-referred applicants gather all necessary information and documentation required by the PHA to determine SV eligibility. The form allows PHAs to modify as needed, based on their program requirements. Questions about the Referral Form or other SV-related questions can be directed to StabilityVouchers@hud.gov.

Using HCV Admin Fees for Lease-up Expenses? PD&R wants to Hear from You!

HUD's Office of Policy Development & Research (PD&R) wants to learn more about how PHAs have been using HCV administrative fees to assist families with eligible lease-up expenses, such as security deposits, owner incentive payments, utility deposits/arrears, and application and holding fees. What is working well? What are some challenges?

If your PHA uses or has used HCV administrative fees for tenant leasing expenses, please email Admin_Fee_Project@hud.gov, and let us know.

NEWSLETTER REMINDER

PBV RADVISOR



This quarterly newsletter is intended for Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Project Based Voucher (PBV) program administrators, property owners, and other stakeholders. This provides updates on program guidance changes, best practices, and friendly reminders of the unique RAD PBV program requirements.

[Click here to Sign Up for PBV RADVISOR](#)

Please send us your feedback.

As we strive to improve our customer service to HCV program administrators, assisted households and other stakeholders, we need your feedback. Do you have a suggestion for a webinar or newsletter topic? Is there something we could do to improve the clarity of HCV utilization tools, resources, or other communications?

Please email your feedback to HCVUtilization@hud.gov.

Subscribe!



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