This policy guidance is in response to grantee inquiries regarding the need to address all identified exterior and interior lead-based paint hazards in units receiving assistance under the HUD Lead-Based Hazard Control Grant program. This policy guidance reiterates the current HUD requirement that all identified lead-based paint hazards in housing units receiving assistance under the HUD Lead Hazard Control Grant Program MUST be eliminated or controlled.

The LBP Hazard Control Grant Program was created to protect children from lead-based paint hazards. Grants are awarded to maximize the combination of children protected from lead poisoning and housing units where lead-hazards are controlled.

Because the protection of children is foremost, we require that all identified interior and exterior lead-based paint hazards be eliminated or controlled and that the housing unit achieve “clearance” in order to confirm that all hazards have been properly addressed. Specifically, the HUD Guidelines (Chapter 15) that have been incorporated by reference in earlier Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs), require that the clearance process include both a visual evaluation and dust-wipe sampling to “determine if all required work has been completed and all lead-based paint hazards have been controlled” (Chapter 15, page 15-3, number 4). Units achieving clearance where all identified lead-based paint hazards have been eliminated or controlled are considered “lead-safe”.

Sincerely,

Ellis G. Goldman, Director
Program Management Division