



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

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

Special Attention of:

Notice PIH 2009 -39 (HA)

Public Housing Agencies;
HUB Directors of Public Housing;
PIH Program Center Coordinators;
Public Housing Division Directors;
HCV Division Directors;
Regional Directors

Issued: September 25, 2009
Expires: September 30, 2010

Subject: Prohibition on Public Housing Agencies Charging Application Fees

1. **Purpose.** This notice reiterates HUD's long-standing policy that public housing agencies (PHAs) may not charge application fees to persons or families applying for the Public Housing (PH) or Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Programs.

HUD recognizes that PHAs incur costs in the processing of applications. Such processing costs are covered by the project expense levels in the PH program (24 CFR 990.165) and by administrative fees (24 CFR 982.152) in the HCV program. PHAs may not charge applicants processing costs including, but not limited to, costs for criminal background checks, credit checks and third party income verifications.

2. **Applicability.** This Notice applies to the PH and HCV programs and is mandatory for all PHAs.
3. **Information Contact.** Direct inquiries to Dina Elani, Director, Public Housing Management and Occupancy Division at (202) 708-0744; or Laure Rawson, Director, Housing Voucher Management and Operations Division at (202) 708-0477; or the appropriate HUD field office.

/s/

Sandra B. Henriquez, Assistant Secretary for
Public and Indian Housing