Current Admin Plan Language: Selection for HCV Assistance

Proposed Admin Plan Language: Selection for HCV Assistance

4-III.B. SELECTION AND HCV FUNDING SOURCES

Special Admissions [24 CFR 982.203]

HUD may award funding for specifically-named families living in specified types of units (e.g., a family that is displaced by demolition of public housing; a non-purchasing family residing in a HOPE 1 or 2 projects). In these cases, the PHA may admit families that are not on the waiting list, or without considering the family's position on the waiting list. The PHA must maintain records showing that such families were admitted with special program funding.

Targeted Funding [24 CFR 982.204(e)]

HUD may award a PHA funding for a specified category of families on the waiting list. The PHA must use this funding only to assist the families within the specified category. Within this category of families, the order in which such families are assisted is determined according to the policies provided in Section 4-III.C.

PHA Policy:

The PHA administers the following types of targeted funding: **Enhanced Opt Programs**

Regular HCV Funding

Regular HCV funding may be used to assist any eligible family on the waiting list. Families are selected from the waiting list according to the policies provided in Section 4-III.C.

4-III.C. SELECTION METHOD

4-III.B. SELECTION AND HCV FUNDING SOURCES

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PHA Policy:

The PHA administers the following types of targeted funding:

Enhanced Opt Out Programs Mainstream Voucher Program

Regular HCV Funding

Regular HCV funding may be used to assist any eligible family on the waiting list. Families are selected from the waiting list according to the policies provided in Section 4-III.C.

4-III.C. SELECTION METHOD

PHAs must describe the method for selecting applicant families from the waiting list, including the system of admission preferences that the PHA will use [24 CFR 982.202(d)].

Local Preferences [24 CFR 982.207; HCV p. 4-16]

PHAs are permitted to establish local preferences, and to give priority to serving families that meet those criteria. HUD specifically authorizes and places restrictions on certain types of local preferences. HUD also permits the PHA to establish other local preferences, at its discretion.

Any local preferences established must be consistent with the PHA plan and the consolidated plan, and must be based on local housing needs and priorities that can be documented by generally accepted data sources.

PHA Policy

AHA's preferences will be weighted by a point system. The more points assigned to the preference the higher on the wait list it places an applicant. Applicants may be eligible for more than one preference. AHA's preferences will be weighted as follows:

- Persons displaced by emergency or major disaster declarations as designated by FEMA, State or Local Government Officials. Displaced families will be given the highest priority on the HCV waiting list. AHA will follow guidance established by HUD, FEMA, State and Local officials. (50 points)
- Homeless Households referred by partnering homeless service providers. These households will have to meet HUD's definition of homelessness and be referred to AHA by a homeless service provider whom has executed a

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- 2. Homeless Households referred by partnering homeless service providers. These households will have to meet HUD's definition of homelessness and be referred to AHA by a homeless service provider whom has executed a Memorandum of Understanding with AHA to assist in the applicants housing search and provide supportive services. The number of applicants that may qualify for this

- Memorandum of Understanding with AHA to assist in the applicants housing search and provide supportive services. The number of applicants that may qualify for this preference is determined by management annually and is contingent upon funding. (15 points) See Chapter 7 for more Information
- 3. Individuals ready to exit institutional care. Five (5) housing choice vouchers are set aside for the Money follows the Person Program (6 points)
- 4. Families that have been terminated from the HCV Program, had their voucher rescinded, or been placed back on the wait list due to insufficient program funding, (3 points)
- Households whose Head, Co-head or Spouse are elderly (62 and over), and/or disabled according to HUD guidelines (2 points)

Order of Selection

The PHA system of preferences may select families either according to the date and time of application, or by a random selection process [24 CFR 982.207(c)]. When selecting families from the waiting list PHAs are required to use targeted funding to assist only those families who meet the specified criteria, and PHAs are not permitted to skip down the waiting list to a family that it can afford to subsidize when there are not sufficient funds to subsidize the family at the top of the waiting list [24 CFR 982.204(d) and (e)].

PHA Policy

The PHA has five preference categories:

 Persons displaced by emergency or major disaster declarations as designated by FEMA, State or Local Government Officials. Displaced families will be given the

- preference is determined by management annually and is contingent upon funding. (15 points) See Chapter 7 for more Information
- 3. Individuals ready to exit institutional care. Five (5) housing choice vouchers are set aside for the Money follows the Person Program (6 points)
- 4. Families that have been terminated from the HCV Program, had their voucher rescinded, or been placed back on the wait list due to insufficient program funding, (3 points)
- 5. Households whose Head, Co-head or Spouse are elderly (62 and over), and/or disabled according to HUD guidelines (2 points)
- 6. AHA will set aside 50 Housing Choice Vouchers for the targeted funding of the Mainstream Voucher Program. These 50 vouchers will be targeted to assist families with at least one non-elderly person with disabilities transitioning out of institutional and other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, homeless, or at risk of being homeless. When any of the 50 vouchers set aside for the Mainstream Program are available AHA will pull applicants from the HCV Wait List that fit the designated preference. See Chapter 7 for more information. (25 points)

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PHA Policy

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- households whose Head, Co-head or Spouse are elderly (62 and over), and/or disabled according to HUD guidelines (2 points)

The preferences will be applied as the need arises to comply with Federal requirements.

Families will be selected from the waiting list based on the targeted funding or selection preference(s) for which they qualify, and in accordance with the PHA's hierarchy of preferences, if applicable. Within each targeted funding or preference category, families will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date and time their complete application is received by the PHA. Documentation will be maintained by the PHA as to whether families on the list qualify for and are interested in targeted funding. If a higher placed family on the waiting list is not qualified or not interested in targeted funding, there will be a notation maintained so

The PHA has six preference categories:

- Persons displaced by emergency or major disaster declarations as designated by FEMA, State or Local Government Officials. Displaced families will be given the highest priority on the HCV waiting list. AHA will follow guidance established by HUD, FEMA, State and Local officials. (50 points)
- 2. Homeless Households referred by partnering homeless service providers. These households will have to meet HUD's definition of homelessness and be referred to AHA by a homeless service provider whom has executed a Memorandum of Understanding with AHA to assist in the applicants housing search and provide supportive services. The number of applicants that may qualify for this preference is determined by management annually and is contingent upon funding. (15 points) See Chapter 7 for more information
- 3. Individuals ready to exit institutional care. Five (5) housing choice vouchers are set aside for the Money follows the Person Program (6 points)
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- 6. AHA will set aside 50 Housing Choice Vouchers for the targeted funding of the Mainstream Voucher Program. These 50 vouchers will be targeted to assist families with at least one non-elderly person with disabilities transitioning out of institutional and other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, homeless, or at risk of being homeless. When any of the 50 vouchers set aside for the Mainstream Program are available AHA will pull applicants from the HCV Wait List that fit the designated preference. See Chapter 7 for appropriate definitions and verifications. (25 points)

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targeted selections are made.	Families will be selected from the waiting list based on the targeted funding or selection preference(s) for which they qualify, and in accordance with the PHA's hierarchy of preferences, if applicable. Within each targeted funding or preference category, families will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date and time their complete application is received by the PHA. Documentation will be maintained by the PHA as to whether families on the list qualify for and are interested in targeted funding. If a higher placed family on the waiting list is not qualified or not interested in targeted funding, there will be a notation maintained so that the PHA does
	not have to ask higher placed families each time targeted selections are

made.

Current Admin Plan Language: Verification of Preference Status	Proposed Admin Plan Language: Verification of Preference Status
7-II.H. VERIFICATION OF PREFERENCE STATUS	7-II.H. VERIFICATION OF PREFERENCE STATUS
The PHA must verify any preferences claimed by an applicant.	The PHA must verify any preferences claimed by an applicant.
PHA Policy	PHA Policy
The PHA will offer a preference to any family that has been terminated from its HCV program due to insufficient program funding. The PHA will verify this preference using the PHA's termination records.	The PHA will offer a preference to any family that has been terminated from its HCV program due to insufficient program funding. The PHA will verify this preference using the PHA's termination records.
The PHA will also offer a preference to any family whose Head, Cohead or Spouse are elderly (62 and over), and to households whose Head, Cohead or Spouse are disabled according to HUD guidelines.	The PHA will also offer a preference to any family whose Head, Cohead or Spouse are elderly (62 and over), and to households whose Head, Cohead or Spouse are disabled according to HUD guidelines.
The preference for individuals ready to exit institutional care will be verified through contacting the appropriate State or Community	

agencies that administer the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program. The agencies' representative will verify if the applicant is eligible for the MFP Program.

The disaster/emergency displaced preference will be verified through referral or documentation of displacement from the appropriate Federal, State, of Local agency.

The Homeless household referral preference is verified through referral from a partnering homeless service provider (HSP) and confirmation from the Coordinated Entry Planning Entity (CEPE). The HSP and CEPE will verify that the referred household meets HUD's definition of homeless listed below:

- A. An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground; or
- B. An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low- income individuals); or
- C. An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution; or

Any individual or family who:

I. Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or lifethreatening conditions that relate to violence against the

The preference for individuals ready to exit institutional care will be verified through contacting the appropriate State or Community agencies that administer the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program. The agencies' representative will verify if the applicant is eligible for the MFP Program.

The disaster/emergency displaced preference will be verified through referral or documentation of displacement from the appropriate Federal, State, of Local agency. The displacing event must have happened within 90 days of application date.

The Homeless household referral preference is verified through referral from a partnering homeless service provider (HSP) and confirmation from the Coordinated Entry Planning Entity (CEPE). The HSP and CEPE will verify that the referred household meets HUD's definition of homeless listed below:

- A. An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground; or
- B. An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low- income individuals); or
- C. An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution; or

Any individual or family who:

- individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence; and
- II. Has no other residence; and
- III. Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, and faith- based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing

The CEPE will also verify that the referred household is among the most vulnerable and that voucher assistance is an appropriate housing solution.

Once these three factors are verified by the CEPE, the CEPE will send the referral to AHA, and the applicant will be placed on the HCV Wait List with the preference.

Partnering Homeless Service Provider is defined as a homeless service provider that executes a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AHA outlining the provider's responsibilities to provide housing search assistance and supportive services to the referred household.

- I. Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence; and
- II. Has no other residence; and
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Eligibility for the Mainstream Voucher Program will be determined by appropriate third party social service agencies.

Appropriate third party social service agencies include the agencies partnering with AHA in the Mainstream Voucher program as well as other agencies that AHA management can rely on to credibly verify an applicant meets one of the required categories.

To be eligible for the Mainstream Voucher Program an applicant family must be an eligible household, meaning a household composed of one or more non-elderly person with disabilities, which may include additional household members who are not non-elderly persons with disabilities. A household where the sole member is an emancipated minor is not an eligible household.

Non-elderly person with disabilities (for purposes of determining eligibility): A person 18 years of age or older and less than 62 years of age, and who:

- (i) Has a disability, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 423;
- (ii) Is determined, pursuant to HUD regulations, to have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that:
- (A) Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
- (B) Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and
- (C) Is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or
- (iii) Has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 6001.

Non-elderly disabled applicant families will need to meet one of the following four required categories:

- 1. Transitioning out of institutional and other segregated settings
- 2. At serious risk of institutionalization
- 3. Homeless
- 4. At risk of being homeless

For the Mainstream Voucher preference these four categories are defined as follows:

Institutional or other segregated settings include, but are not limited

to: (1) congregate settings populated exclusively or primarily with individuals with disabilities; (2) congregate settings characterized by regimentation in daily activities, lack of privacy or autonomy, policies limiting visitors, or limits on individuals' ability to engage freely in community activities and to manage their own activities of daily living; or (3) settings that provide for daytime activities primarily with other individuals with disabilities.

At serious risk of institutionalization: Includes an individual with a disability who as a result of a public entity's failure to provide community services or its cut to such services will likely cause a decline in health, safety, or welfare that would lead to the individual's eventual placement in an institution. This includes individuals experiencing lack of access to supportive services for independent living, long waiting lists for or lack of access to housing combined with community based services, individuals currently living under poor housing conditions or homeless with barriers to geographic mobility, and/or currently living alone but requiring supportive services for independent living. A person cannot be considered at serious risk of institutionalization unless the person has a disability. An individual may be designated as at serious risk of institutionalization either by a health and human services agency or by a community-based organization.

Homeless means:

- (1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
- (i) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
- (ii) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living

arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals); or

- (iii) An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;
- (2) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
- (i) The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
- (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; and
- (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, needed to obtain other permanent housing;
- (3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:
- (i) Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42

U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7

U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);

(ii) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy

agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;

- (iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60- day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
- (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities; chronic physical health or mental health conditions; substance addiction; histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect); the presence of a child or youth with a disability; or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or
- (4) Any individual or family who:
- (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or lifethreatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence;
- (ii) Has no other residence; and
- (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, and faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

At risk of becoming homeless: An individual or family who:

(i) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately

available_to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the "Homeless" definition in this section; and

- (ii) Meets one of the following conditions:
- (A) Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
- (B) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
- (C) Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days of the date of application for assistance;
- (D) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by federal, <u>State</u>, or local government programs for low-income individuals;
- (E) Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons, or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 people per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
- (F) Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
- (G) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

If after making good faith efforts to add families that meet the four preference categories above to the waiting list, the PHA is unable to find families who qualify, the PHA may issue the mainstream vouchers to eligible families with a non-elderly disabled household

member who do not meet the preference criteria.