

The HCV Connect

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

December 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The HCV Program will Finish 2023 with a Record (2.4 million) Families Assisted!

Thanks to the tremendous work of HCV Program Administrators and stakeholders across the county, the HCV program is on track to serve its highest level of households in its history. This includes over 60 thousand families housed through the Emergency Housing Voucher program funded by the American Rescue Plan, over 50 thousand households funded through the Mainstream Vouchers. Check out [the HCV Data Dashboard](#) to see how the HCV program is working in your community.

Review your Emergency Housing Voucher Leasing Status before Issuing New Vouchers

HUD recently updated the [EHV Data Dashboard](#) and created a [new exception report](#) dashboard to help PHAs and stakeholders track remaining EHV leasing authority. For more information on the prohibition on issuing EHV's, please review [PIH Notice 2023-14](#) or email ehv@hud.gov.

Introducing the HCV-Updates@hud.gov E-mail Box



We are in the process of improving our email communications to make it easier for HCV Program Administrators to receive and act on the emails they get from HUD. We plan to start by sending more program emails from a new email account at HCV-Updates@hud.gov. Please update your spam filters so that this new email address is not blocked.

If you have additional suggestions for how we can improve our email communications, please email Chad.Ruppel@hud.gov.

Past Due NSPIRE Deadlines

Public housing agencies (PHAs) are reminded of past deadlines for the National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and Project-Based Voucher (PBV) programs. As announced in the [Federal Register](#), HUD extended the compliance date for when NSPIRE replaces Housing Quality Standards

(HQS) as the inspection standards for the HCV and PBV programs until October 1, 2024.

- **PHAs are reminded that the deadline for notifying HUD whether they will continue with HQS as previously defined or convert to NSPIRE was November 15, 2024. If your agency has not yet sent notification, please do so as soon as possible.** The PHA must report the decision to continue using HQS or another approved alternative standard to HUD by sending an email to NSPIREV_AlternateInspection@hud.gov with a courtesy copy to their local Field Office representative. The email's Subject line must read "Notification of Extension of HQS, [PHA Code]" and the body of the email should include the PHA name, PHA code, a statement that HQS will continue to be used, and what date the PHA tentatively plans to implement NSPIRE (which may be no later than October 1, 2024).
- **All unvented, fuel-burning space heaters must be removed as of January 1, 2024. The deadline for PHAs to provide all owners and currently assisted families with a written notice to remove unvented, fuel-burning space heaters by this date was November 1, 2023.** NSPIRE will no longer allow for the use of unvented, fuel-burning space heaters because of the risk of carbon monoxide exposure. See [Notice PIH 2023-28](#), the Administrative Notice for NSPIRE for HCV and PBV programs for more information.

As a reminder, HUD made an optional checklist as an [Excel](#) and [PDF](#) document [available here](#) to PHAs that implement NSPIRE anytime on or after October 1, 2023. Questions can be sent to NSPIRE@hud.gov.

[Click Here for More Information on NSPIRE](#)

HUD Awards \$25 Million for Housing Mobility-Related Services to 7 Public Housing Agencies

Seven PHAs have been selected from a prior Housing Mobility-Related Services Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). These funds are designed to expand housing choices for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) families with children by increasing access to opportunity neighborhoods with high-performing schools, access to jobs, low crime rates, parks, and other amenities.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

EVENTS AND TRAININGS

HCV Utilization Webinar:

Preparing for 2024 Funding - Thursday, Dec 21 (2-3 PM EST)

We know it is hard to make HCV program decisions during this time of year when we are transitioning between funding. HCV Program Administrators are encouraged to join us on Thursday, December 21st for a webinar intended to help you make sound program decisions for the months ahead. This presentation that will include an explanation of the [HCV Utilization Tools](#), our latest projections for the year ahead, and (of course) a good bit of holiday cheer.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Reminder: SAFMR Resources Available On-Demand

Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMRs) are a tool Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) are encouraged to use to help increase voucher holders and efficiency in the administration of the HCV program. Visit HUD's SAFMR website dedicated to all things SAFMR, where you can find guidance for [newly designated metro areas for 2024](#), the SAFMR Dashboard and many more resources.

[Click Here for the SAFMR Website](#)

Reminder of HCV Utilization Webinar Series

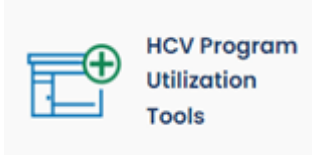
The third Thursday of every month we host an HCV Utilization Webinar. These webinars are intended to update HCV Program Administrators and stakeholders on recent program changes and highlight best practices in program administration.

Upcoming topics:

- [Preparing for 2024 Funding](#) (Dec 21st from 2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern)
- [End of Year Reconciliation and Special Purpose Vouchers](#) (Jan 18th from 2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern)

Can't make a webinar? Don't worry. They are all recorded and posted on the [Past Trainings and Webinars site](#).

HCV UTILIZATION TOOL UPDATES



The HCV program requires program administrators to make regular adjustments to reflect funding levels and local market conditions. HUD provides resources on the [HCV Utilization Tools site](#) to help PHAs forecast the impact of different program adjustments and voucher issuance decisions. Here are recent HCV Utilization Tool updates:

2024 Estimated Prorations, Inflation Factors, and Offsets now available. Although final funding for 2024 is still a mystery, we do know the inflation factors that will be applied to the 2024 renewals allocation, and we have estimated funding from the latest Senate and House appropriation legislation. Using this data, we are able to provide a conservative estimate for 2024 funding for every PHAs so that program administrators may continue to maximize program utilization while avoiding program shortfalls. [Click here to open the TYT.](#)

Video Explaining the HCV Funding Process. We have prepared [this short video](#) to explain the HCV Funding process. The video emphasizes the importance of fully utilizing program funding throughout the year.

Still need more help planning for 2024? Please remember your local HUD Field Office is available to help generate and explain your PHA's TYT. You may also contact the TYT programmer and joke writer, Patrick Hatch (patrick.j.hatch@hud.gov), for more detailed calculation questions.

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