

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved information collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application to Adjust Status from Temporary to Permanent Resident.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form I-698. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. The data collected on this form is used by the USCIS to determine eligibility to adjust an applicant's residence status.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 1,179 responses at 60 minutes (1 hour) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 1,179 annual burden hours.

If you need a copy of the information collection instrument, please visit the Web site at: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

We may also be contacted at: USCIS, Regulatory Products Division, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20529-2210; Telephone 202-272-8377.

Dated: August 27, 2009.

Stephen Tarragon,

Deputy Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5288-N-08]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment; Public Housing Operating Subsidy—Stop-Loss and Appeals

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* November 2, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Lillian L. Deitzer, Department Reports Management Officer, ODAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 4116, Washington, DC 20410-5000; telephone: 202-708-2374, (this is not a toll-free number) or e-mail Ms. Deitzer at Lillian_L_Deitzer@HUD.gov for a copy of the proposed form and other available information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dacia Rogers, Office of Policy, Programs and Legislative Initiatives, PIH, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone: 202-708-0713, (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended). This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) minimize the burden of the collection of information

on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Public Housing Operating Subsidy—Stop-Loss and Appeals.

OMB Control Number: 2577-0246.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: PHAs that will experience a reduction in subsidy will have their subsidy reduction phased in over a five-year period. PHAs that elect to stop the phase in of the decrease in their subsidy are required to demonstrate to HUD a successful conversion to asset management, as provided in the operating fund final rule. A PHA with a reduction in subsidy may make this demonstration to HUD in order to "stop its losses" during any one of the five years over which HUD phases in the reduction. Under the operating fund final rule, PHAs that elect to file an appeal of their subsidy amounts are required to meet the appeal requirements set forth in subpart G of the operating fund final rule. The final rule establishes five grounds for appeals in 24 CFR § 990.245 and they are the: (a) Streamlined appeal; (b) appeal of formula income for economic hardship; (c) appeal for specific local conditions; (d) appeal for changing market conditions; and (e) appeal to substitute actual project cost data. To stop the phase-in of the reduction in the amount of subsidy a PHA receives under the new operating fund formula, PHAs submit a "stop-loss" package to HUD demonstrating conversion to asset management. To appeal the amount of subsidy on any one of the permitted bases of appeal, PHAs submit an appeal request to HUD.

Agency form number, if applicable: N/A.

Members of affected public: PHAs, state or local government.

Estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents: The estimated number of respondents is an annual average of 146 PHAs that submit one request for stop-loss and an annual average of 176 PHAs that submit an appeal of the amount of operating subsidy, for a total 322 PHAs that submit annually. The average number for each PHA response varies by size of the PHA, with a total reporting burden of 5,168 hours: An average of 21.7 hours per respondent for stop-loss;

and an average of 11.5 hours per respondent for appeals.

Status of the proposed information collection: Extension of an existing collection.

Authority: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: August 28, 2009.

Bessy Kong,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy, Program and Legislative Initiatives.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5327-N-01]

Notice of Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Opportunity To Register and Other Important Information for Electronic Application Submission for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs

AGENCY: Office of Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides instructions to potential Continuums of Care (CoCs) applying for the approximately \$1.43 billion of funding under HUD's Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Competition in FY 2009. The CoC competition uses an electronic system outside of Grants.gov for CoC registration, as well as for submission of the CoC application, called e-snaps. Notification of the availability of the 2009 CoC application will be released via HUD's Homeless Assistance listserv. To join HUD's listserv, go to <http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/maillinglist.cfm> and click on "Homeless Assistance Program."

This notice provides information to help applicants better understand the CoC registration and electronic application submission process through e-snaps, which is located at <http://www.hud.gov/esnaps>. Applicants for project funding are also required to register with Dun and Bradstreet, if they have not already done so, and complete or renew their registration in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR). More information on this can be found in the General Section to HUD's FY 2009 NOFAs for Discretionary Programs published in the **Federal Register** December 29, 2008 (73 FR 79548), as amended April 16, 2009 (73 FR 17685). In an effort to streamline the renewal award process in 2009, HUD has modified the selection process. Eligible

Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Shelter Plus Care (S+C) renewal projects will be conditionally awarded as quickly as possible. New projects will be awarded after the project threshold review and the scoring of the CoC application have been completed. A project application must be submitted for each project that is eligible for renewal in the 2009 competition, in order for it to be considered for funding.

Projects are considered eligible for renewal in the 2009 competition if they expire in Calendar Year 2010 and have met all of the performance and capacity requirements that will be outlined in the 2009 CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). HUD reserves the right to not renew grants where the grantee has exhibited serious capacity issues in prior grants, including performance and financial problems, or unresolved monitoring findings for which there is no evidence that the grantee is working toward appropriate resolution. CoCs and project applicants should read all sections of this notice, as well as the upcoming 2009 NOFA, to help identify these types of issues and work with their local field office to resolve the issues prior to the 2009 CoC Application due date. Grantees and project sponsors are responsible for keeping grant files and for knowing the beginning and ending dates of their grants. If a grantee fails to apply for a renewal project in the appropriate year, the project will not be eligible for renewal in the next funding competition. **Please Note:** Under the 2002 and 2003 Appropriation Acts, funds for all grants awarded in those years will be available for use until September 30, 2009, and September 30, 2010, respectively. Projects that were awarded in 2002 and expire in 2009 were required to apply for renewal in the 2008 competition and, therefore, will not be eligible for renewal in the 2009 competition. Although the terms of all grants awarded in 2002 and 2003 should have expired before September 30, 2009, and September 30, 2010, respectively, HUD has discovered that, due to delays in signing the grant agreements or extensions, some grants have an expiration date in 2010 or later. Funds will not be available for expenditure after September 30, 2009, and September 30, 2010, respectively, for these grants. Recipients may not accelerate their spending rate. Field offices will monitor draws for affected grants, to ensure that funds will be drawn only to reimburse the affected recipients for actual costs incurred in accordance with the project budget on, or before, funds are no longer available.

Notwithstanding the expiration date of your SHP or S+C grant, if the grant was awarded in 2002 or 2003, but has an expiration date of 2010 or later, the applicant must apply for renewal in 2009.

As stated previously, HUD will rate new project applications separately from renewal project submissions. The determination of leveraging and housing emphasis scores in Exhibit 1 will be calculated only with data from new project applications. For more information on this and other significant changes to the 2009 CoC competition, please see Section III of this notice. HUD advises potential applicants to read this notice in its entirety and complete the training offered at <http://www.hudhre.info>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CoCs may contact the HUD Field Office serving their area, at the telephone number shown in the General Section. In addition, applicants are strongly encouraged to send questions regarding this notice to the e-snaps Virtual Help Desk at <http://www.hudhre.info/helpdesk>.

Full Text of Announcement

This notice is divided into three sections. Section I describes important information that CoCs and project applicants should be familiar with prior to applying for 2009 Homeless Assistance funding. This includes pertinent definitions and an overview of the necessary CoC planning process. Section II provides detailed information on completing the CoC registration process in e-snaps. Finally, Section III provides information about the major changes that HUD will make to the 2009 CoC Homeless Assistance competition. HUD hopes that this will assist CoCs in better planning their 2009 CoC application.

I. Overview Information

A. Program Description

Approximately \$1.43 billion is available for funding through the FY2009 CoC Homeless Assistance Competition. Carried over or recaptured funds from previous fiscal years, if available, may be added to this amount.

The purpose of the CoC Homeless Assistance Program is to reduce the incidence of homelessness in CoC communities by assisting homeless individuals and families move to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

The 2009 CoC NOFA will be published separately in the **Federal Register** no earlier than August 15, 2009.