

subpart in a metropolitan city or an urban county.

(f) *Multiyear plans.* HUD will not make any new multiyear commitments for NOFAs published in calendar year 1997 or later. HUD will continue to honor the terms of the multiyear plans that were approved under the provisions of NOFAs published prior to calendar year 1997.

(g) *Maximum grant amount.* The maximum grant amount that will be awarded to a single unit of general local government in response to the annual Small Cities NOFA published in calendar year 1997 or later is \$400,000, except that counties may apply for up to \$600,000 in HUD-administered Small Cities funds. HUD may specify lower grant limits in the NOFA, which may include different limits for different types of grants available or different types of applicants. This paragraph (g) does not apply to multiyear plans that were approved under the provisions of NOFAs published prior to calendar year 1997, nor does it apply to grants awarded in connection with paragraphs (a)(3) through (a)(5) of this section. The maximum limits in this paragraph (g) apply to grants for economic development projects awarded under NOFAs in which there is no set-aside of funds for such projects.

**§ 570.422 Applications from joint applicants.**

Units of general local government may submit a joint application which addresses common problems faced by the jurisdictions, to the extent permitted by the NOFA. A joint application must be pursuant to a written cooperation agreement submitted with the application. The cooperation agreement must authorize one of the participating units of government to act as the lead applicant which will submit the application to HUD, and must delineate the responsibilities of each participating unit of government with respect to the Small Cities Program. The lead applicant is responsible for executing the application, certifications, and grant agreement, and ensuring compliance with all laws, regulations, and Executive Orders applicable to the CDBG Program. HUD reserves the right to deal exclusively with the lead appli-

cant with respect to issues of program administration and performance, including remedial actions. In the event of poor performance, HUD reserves the right to deny and/or restrict future funding to all units of general local government that are parties to the cooperation agreement. The maximum amount that may be awarded pursuant to a joint application is the maximum single grant limit established in a NOFA or pursuant to § 570.421(g) multiplied by the number of participants in the cooperation agreement, provided that for the purpose of determining such a multiple grant limit, and in order to receive such amount, a participating joint applicant must receive a substantial direct benefit from the activities proposed in the application, and must not be acting solely on behalf of, or in conjunction with, another jurisdiction for the sole purpose of raising the maximum grant amount that may be awarded. In addition, the statistics of each participant counted for maximum grant limits purposes shall also be used for purposes of the selection factors referred to in § 570.421(a).

**§ 570.423 Application for the HUD-administered New York Small Cities Grants.**

(a) *Proposed application.* The applicant shall prepare and publish a proposed application and comply with citizen participation requirements as described in § 570.431. The applicant should follow the citizen participation requirements of 24 CFR part 91 if it submits a complete consolidated plan.

(b) *Final application.* The applicant shall submit to HUD a final application containing its community development objectives and activities. This final application shall be submitted, in a form prescribed by HUD, to the appropriate HUD office. The application also must contain a priority nonhousing community development plan, in accordance with 24 CFR 91.235.

(c) *Certifications.* (1) Certifications shall be submitted in a form prescribed by HUD. If the application contains any housing activities, the applicant shall certify that the proposed housing activities are consistent with its abbreviated consolidated plan, as described at 24 CFR part 91.

(2) In the absence of evidence (which may, but need not, be derived from performance reviews or other sources) which tends to challenge in a substantial manner the certifications made by the applicant, the certifications will be accepted by HUD. However, if HUD does have available such evidence, HUD may require the submission of additional information or assurances before determining whether an applicant's certifications are satisfactory.

(d) *Thresholds.* The HUD Office may use any information available to it to make the threshold judgments required by the applicable NOFA, including information related to the applicant's performance with respect to any previous assistance under this subpart. The annual performance and evaluation report required under § 570.507(a) is the primary source of this information. The HUD Office may request additional information in cases where it is essential to make the required performance judgments.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2506-0060)

**§ 570.424 Grants for imminent threats to public health and safety.**

(a) *Criteria.* The following criteria apply for an imminent threat to public health or safety:

(1) The Director of Community Planning and Development of the HUD office may, at any time, invite an application for funds available under this subpart in response to a request for assistance to alleviate an imminent threat to public health or safety that requires immediate resolution. HUD shall verify the urgency and the immediacy of the threat with an appropriate authority other than the applicant prior to acceptance of the application, and the Director of Community Planning and Development of the HUD Office shall review the claim to determine if, in fact, an imminent threat to public health or safety does exist. For example, an applicant with documented cases of disease resulting from a contaminated drinking water supply has an imminent threat to public health, while an applicant ordered to improve the quality of its drinking water supply over the next 2 years does not have an imminent threat within

the definition of this paragraph (a). A natural disaster is prima facie evidence of an imminent threat to public health or safety. These funds are to be used to deal with those threats that represent a unique and unusual circumstance, not for the type of threat that occurs with frequency in a number of communities within the State of New York.

(2) The applicant does not have sufficient local resources, and other Federal or State resources are unavailable to alleviate the imminent threat.

(3) All imminent threat projects must meet the requirement of § 570.420(e).

(b) *HUD action.* (1) Fifteen percent of the funds allocated to New York State in the Small Cities Program may be reserved to alleviate imminent threats to the public health or safety unless a lesser amount is specified in a NOFA. Applications shall be submitted in accordance with § 570.423.

(2) Applications which meet the requirements of this section may be approved by the Director of Community Planning and Development of the HUD Office without competition.

(3) The only funds reserved for imminent threats to the public health or safety are those specified by this section as modified by the NOFA. After the funds have been depleted, HUD shall not consider further requests for grants relating to imminent threats during that fiscal year.

(c) *Letter to proceed.* Notwithstanding § 570.425(a)(3), after a determination has been made that an imminent threat exists, HUD may issue the applicant a letter to proceed to incur costs to alleviate the imminent threat. Reimbursement of such costs is dependent upon HUD approval of the final application.

(d) *Environmental review.* Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10), grants for imminent threats to public health or safety are excluded from some or all of the environmental review requirements of 24 CFR part 58, to the extent provided therein.

**§ 570.425 HUD review and actions on applications for New York State applicants.**

(a) *Final application submission—(1) Submission deadline.* HUD will establish