

§982.1

24 CFR Ch. IX (4-1-02 Edition)

- 982.628 Homeownership option: Eligible units.
- 982.629 Homeownership option: Additional PHA requirements for family search and purchase.
- 982.630 Homeownership option: Homeownership counseling.
- 982.631 Homeownership option: Home inspections and contract of sale.
- 982.632 Homeownership option: Financing purchase of home; affordability of purchase.
- 982.633 Homeownership option: Continued assistance requirements; Family obligations.
- 982.634 Homeownership option: Maximum term of homeownership assistance.
- 982.635 Homeownership option: Amount and distribution of monthly homeownership assistance payment.
- 982.636 Homeownership option: Portability.
- 982.637 Homeownership option: Move with continued tenant-based assistance.
- 982.638 Homeownership option: Denial or termination of assistance for family.
- 982.639 Homeownership option: Administrative fees.
- 982.640 Homeownership option: Recapture of homeownership assistance.
- 982.641 Homeownership option: Applicability of other requirements.
- 982.642 Homeownership option: Pilot program for homeownership assistance for disabled families.

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Subpart A—General Information

SOURCE: 60 FR 34695, July 3, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

§982.1 Programs: purpose and structure.

(a) *General description.* (1) In the HUD Housing Choice Voucher Program (Voucher Program) and the HUD certificate program, HUD pays rental subsidies so eligible families can afford decent, safe and sanitary housing. Both programs are generally administered by State or local governmental entities called public housing agencies (PHAs). HUD provides housing assistance funds to the PHA. HUD also provides funds for PHA administration of the programs. PHAs are no longer allowed to enter into contracts for assistance in the certificate program.

(2) Families select and rent units that meet program housing quality standards. If the PHA approves a family's unit and tenancy, the PHA contracts with the owner to make rent subsidy payments on behalf of the family. A PHA may not approve a tenancy unless the rents is reasonable.

(3) In the certificate program, the rental subsidy is generally based on the actual rent of a unit leased by the assisted family. In the voucher program, the rental subsidy is determined by a formula.

(4)(i) In the certificate program, the subsidy for most families is the difference between the rent and 30 percent of adjusted monthly income.

(ii) In the voucher program, the subsidy is based on a local "payment standard" that reflects the cost to lease a unit in the local housing market. If the rent is less than the payment standard, the family generally pays 30 percent of adjusted monthly income for rent. If the rent is more than the payment standard, the family pays a larger share of the rent.

(b) *Tenant-based and project-based assistance.* (1) Section 8 assistance may be "tenant-based" or "project-based". In project-based programs, rental assistance is paid for families who live in specific housing developments or units. With tenant-based assistance, the assisted unit is selected by the family. The family may rent a unit anywhere in the United States in the jurisdiction of a PHA that runs a voucher program.

(2) To receive tenant-based assistance, the family selects a suitable unit. After approving the tenancy, the PHA enters into a contract to make rental subsidy payments to the owner to subsidize occupancy by the family. The PHA contract with the owner only covers a single unit and a specific assisted family. If the family moves out of the leased unit, the contract with the owner terminates. The family may move to another unit with continued assistance so long as the family is complying with program requirements.

[60 FR 34695, July 3, 1995, as amended at 64 FR 26640, May 14, 1999]

§982.2 Applicability.

(a) Part 982 is a unified statement of program requirements for the tenant-

based housing assistance programs under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f). The tenant-based programs are the Section 8 tenant-based certificate program and the Section 8 voucher program.

(b) Unless specifically stated in this part, requirements for both tenant-based programs are the same.

[60 FR 34695, July 3, 1995, as amended at 64 FR 26640, May 14, 1999]

§ 982.3 HUD.

The HUD field offices have been delegated responsibility for day-to-day administration of the program by HUD. In exercising these functions, the field offices are subject to HUD regulations and other HUD requirements issued by HUD headquarters. Some functions are specifically reserved to HUD headquarters.

§ 982.4 Definitions.

(a) *Definitions found elsewhere:*

(1) *General definitions.* The terms *1937 Act*, *HUD*, and *MSA*, are defined in 24 CFR part 5, subpart A.

(2) *Terms found elsewhere.* The following terms are defined in part 5, subpart A of this title: *1937 Act*, *covered person*, *drug*, *drug-related criminal activity*, *federally assisted housing*, *guest*, *household*, *HUD*, *MSA*, *other person under the tenant's control*, *public housing*, *Section 8*, and *violent criminal activity*.

(3) *Definitions concerning family income and rent.* The terms "adjusted income," "annual income," "extremely low income family," "tenant rent," "total tenant payment," "utility allowance," "utility reimbursement," and "welfare assistance" are defined in part 5, subpart F of this title. The definitions of "tenant rent" and "utility reimbursement" in part 5, subpart F of this title, apply to the certificate program, but do not apply to the tenant-based voucher program under part 982.

(b) In addition to the terms listed in paragraph (a) of this section, the following definitions apply:

Absorption. In portability (under subpart H of this part 982): the point at which a receiving PHA stops billing the initial PHA for assistance on behalf of a portability family. The receiving

PPHA uses funds available under the receiving PHA consolidated ACC.

Administrative fee. Fee paid by HUD to the PHA for administration of the program. See § 982.152.

Administrative fee reserve (formerly "operating reserve"). Account established by PHA from excess administrative fee income. The administrative fee reserve must be used for housing purposes. See § 982.155.

Administrative plan. The plan that describes PHA policies for administration of the tenant-based programs. See § 982.54.

Admission. The point when the family becomes a participant in the program. The date used for this purpose is the effective date of the first HAP contract for a family (first day of initial lease term) in a tenant-based program.

Applicant (applicant family). A family that has applied for admission to a program but is not yet a participant in the program.

Budget authority. An amount authorized and appropriated by the Congress for payment to HAs under the program. For each funding increment in a PHA program, budget authority is the maximum amount that may be paid by HUD to the PHA over the ACC term of the funding increment.

Common space. In shared housing: Space available for use by the assisted family and other occupants of the unit.

Congregate housing. Housing for elderly persons or persons with disabilities that meets the HQS for congregate housing. A special housing type: see § 982.606 to § 982.609.

Continuously assisted. An applicant is continuously assisted under the 1937 Act if the family is already receiving assistance under any 1937 Act program when the family is admitted to the certificate or voucher program.

Cooperative. Housing owned by a corporation or association, and where a member of the corporation or association has the right to reside in a particular unit, and to participate in management of the housing.

Cooperative member. A family of which one or more members owns membership shares in a cooperative.