

FY 2019

# Mainstream Voucher Program

Office of Public and Indian Housing

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6300-N-43

CFDA #14.879





# Program Summary

- Mainstream vouchers assist non-elderly persons with disabilities.
- Aside from assisting a special population, Mainstream vouchers follow the same program policies as the regular tenant-based voucher program.
- Funding and financial reporting for Mainstream vouchers are separate.



# Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers vs. Mainstream Vouchers

## Similarities

- Serve non-elderly persons with disabilities.
- Follow the program policies of the regular Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program.

## Differences

- Mainstream vouchers serve a broader group – any household that includes a non-elderly person with disabilities, whereas, NED vouchers only serve households with a head, co-head, or spouse who is a non-elderly person with disabilities.
- Financial reporting for Mainstream vouchers is separated out from the regular HCV program in VMS and FASS-PH, whereas, NED is combined with the regular HCV program.
- Different program code for line 2n of the HUD-50058.



# Appropriations and NOFAs

- Congress appropriated funding for new Mainstream vouchers in 2017, 2018, and 2019.
- In September 2018, HUD awarded over 12,000 new vouchers to 285 PHAs totaling ~\$99 million.
- Prior to the 2018 award, there were 14,800 Mainstream vouchers. The last award was made in 2005.



# NOFA Overview

- **Due Date:** Applications must be submitted in Grants.gov no later than 11:59:59 PM Eastern time on **Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**
- **Funding Available:** Up to \$150 million in HAP
  - Will fund approximately 18,000 vouchers
  - Administrative fees will be paid, however, the award amount is based on one year of HAP funding



# Who Can Apply?

- Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) that already administer housing choice vouchers
  - Included in this definition of PHAs are non-profit organizations that already administer Mainstream voucher assistance
  - Application is for new increments.



# How to Apply

- Find NOFA on Grants.gov
  - Search for CFDA # 14.879
  - Also posted on hud.gov/grants
- Read NOFA carefully.
- To submit application through Grants.gov, your PHA must have an active DUNS number and SAM registration.
  - If your PHA plans to apply, please check on this as soon as possible.
  - Lack of DUNS or SAM registration is not considered good cause for not using Grants.gov.
  - [www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com) and [www.SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov)



# Grants.gov

- Grants.gov Online Help – Please use this feature accessible via the top right corner of Grants.gov.
- 1-800-518-4726 or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)
- Be aware of [scheduled maintenance](#) during the application open period. An extension will not be granted based on regularly scheduled system maintenance.
  - July 20-22, 2019
  - August 17-19, 2019





# Requirements

- Awarded funds are to serve New Admissions pulled from the PHA's waiting list.
- Households that receive assistance must include a non-elderly (at least 18 and not yet 62 years of age) person with disabilities.
- Lease 80% of vouchers within 1 year.



# Changes from Previous NOFA

- Streamlined application process.
- PHAs will be required to submit a Statement of Need.
- Increased points on Rating Factor 4: Program Resources
  - PHAs will receive credit for services provided in house in addition to those provided by a partner agency
- PHAs participating in the Moving On program will be able to claim points under the Admissions Preference.
- Removal of two rating factors: Partner Agency Capacity and Geographic Jurisdiction.



# Goals of NOFA

- Further the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Support the goals of [Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#)
- Encourage partnerships between PHAs and health and human service agencies
- Promote voluntary supportive services to increase program access among persons with disabilities



# NOFA Requirements and Evaluation

- Threshold Requirements
- Required Forms
- Four Rating Factors:
  - Rating Factor 1 – Prior Experience Assisting Persons with Disabilities
  - Rating Factor 2 – Admissions Preference
  - Rating Factor 3 – Program Resources
  - Rating Factor 4 – Achieving Results and Program Evaluation



# Threshold Requirements

- Submit application on time.
- Applicants **MUST** provide their PHA code on line 5a of the SF-424.
  - Applications received without the PHA code entered or with an invalid PHA code, **WILL NOT BE SCORED.**
- No major program management and compliance issues.
- Statement of Need must be submitted.



# Required Forms

- See page 16 of NOFA for instructions
- SF-424 – completed electronically in Grants.gov
- SF-LLL, only if PHA has lobbying activities to disclose
- HUD-2880 – completed electronically in Grants.gov
- HUD-52515 – cannot be completed in Grants.gov, you must complete and then upload as an attachment. NEW VERSION expires 7/31/2022



# Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

- Complete the SF-424 electronically in Grants.gov
- Follow the instructions on page 21 of the NOFA
- PHA Code **MUST** be entered for Question 5a. Federal Entity Identifier
  - 5 digit code beginning with state abbreviation
  - e.g. MN035
- **WE WILL NOT SCORE APPLICATION IF PHA CODE IS MISSING FROM FIELD 5a.**



# HUD-52515

- PDF of [HUD-52515](#) is included in the application packet available to be downloaded from Grants.gov. Use NEW VERSION of the form.
- HUD-52515 cannot be filled out electronically in Grants.gov
- Use the instructions on page 17 of the NOFA to complete the form
- Upload completed form named “Attachment 1\_HUD52515\_<PHA Code>” - <enter your PHA code as part of the document name>
- Important information to include:
  - Statement of need
  - Enter the maximum number of vouchers you would like to receive through this NOFA – this must be supported by your statement of need





# Statement of Need

- Statement of Need must be included with Attachment 1. It may be included on the actual HUD-52515 or on additional pages included at the end of the form.
  - Describe the need for housing among non-elderly persons with disabilities in your PHA's jurisdiction.
  - Consider the unmet need, accounting for other known programs that provide housing assistance to this population.
  - Statement of need **MUST** show that the need supports the maximum number of vouchers requested.



# Determining Maximum Number of Vouchers Requested

- Consider the number of vouchers your PHA can realistically use in one year. HUD plans to award more Mainstream vouchers in 2020.
- HUD may recapture funding that the PHA does not use if the PHA does not achieve 80% utilization within one year of the award effective date.
- The maximum award amount per PHA for this NOFA is \$3 million.



# Rating Factor 1: Prior Experience Assisting Persons with Disabilities

- 20 points
- Evaluates PHA's previous experience assisting persons with disabilities, including creating partnerships and providing supportive services.



# Rating Factor 1: Prior Experience Assisting Persons with Disabilities

- Each listed item is worth 5 points. PHAs that qualify for more than 4 of the listed experiences will receive a maximum of 20 points.
- PHAs will certify whether they have the listed experience.
- For PHA programs (FUP, VASH, etc), HUD will use administrative data to determine points based on utilization/performance.
- For items 1.2 through 1.8, PHA will provide no more than 5 sentences to describe the particular experience.
- Certification and description of experience must be included in Attachment 2\_Rating Factor Certification\_<PHA code>.
- Attachment 2 may be no longer than 5 pages.



# Rating Factor 2: Admissions Preference

- 15 points
- Encourages PHAs to adopt an admissions preference(s) for their housing choice voucher program that targets one or more of the following groups:
  - Transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings
  - At risk of institutionalization
  - Homeless
  - Previously experienced homelessness and is a resident of permanent supportive housing or a rapid rehousing program
  - At risk of homelessness



## Rating Factor 2: Admissions Preference

- In order to receive points for this rating factor, PHAs must provide the statement on page 19 of the NOFA as a part of Attachment 2\_Rating Factor Certifications\_<PHA Code>.
- On the certification, mark the targeted groups for which the PHA will adopt a preference.



# Admissions Preferences

- Preferences affect the order in which families on the waiting list receive assistance.
- The preference cannot be applied only to Mainstream vouchers.
- The preference may be limited to a certain number of applicants.
- Adopted preference should be incorporated into PHA's overall preferences and policy for applying preferences must be included in the PHA's administrative plan.
- PHAs that wish to target their assistance to one of the targeted groups may adopt a preference for just that group.
  - For example, PHA may adopt a preference only for those transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings.
- PHAs must ensure that their preferences do not exclude persons with certain disabilities from accessing assistance or violate other fair housing or civil rights laws.
- See regulations for waiting lists and preferences at 24 CFR 982.201-207.



## Rating Factor 3: Program Resources

- 50 points
- This rating factor encourages PHAs to establish or continue partnerships with health and human service agencies and others that will provide voluntary supportive services to applicants and tenants and help increase access to the housing choice voucher program.





## Rating Factor 3: Program Resources

- PHAs will receive 10 points for each type of service that will be provided as described in letters or MOUs submitted with the application.
- Either the PHA or a partner organization may provide the services.
- Application must include letter describing the services that will be provided from PHA or other provider.
- Letters must be on organization's letterhead and uploaded as Attachment 3\_Partnership Agreements and Program Resources\_<PHA code>



# Rating Factor 4: Achieving Results and Evaluation

- 15 points
- Encourages PHAs to monitor certain key program metrics with their partners and to do so using centralized tracking.



# Rating Factor 4: Achieving Results and Evaluation

- PHAs certify whether their program evaluation plan meets these criteria:
  - 10 points if PHA has a program evaluation plan that meets the requirements described in the NOFA
  - 15 points if PHA will use centralized tracking with partners to monitor program performance and leasing
- The actual plan does not need to be submitted, just the certification.
- In order to receive points for this rating factor, PHAs must provide the applicable statement on page 20 of the NOFA as a part of Attachment 2\_Rating Factor Certifications\_<PHA Code>.



# Final Application Will Include

- Attachment 1: Funding Application (HUD-52515) including Statement of Need
- Attachment 2: Rating Factor Certification – maximum 5 pages
- Attachment 3: Partnership Agreements and Program Resources
  - If possible, please provide this as a readable PDF – converted, not scanned.

## Electronic Forms completed in Grants.gov

- SF-424, **including PHA Code under 5a. Federal Identifier**
- HUD-2880
- SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities – this form must be included **ONLY IF** the PHA has lobbying activities to disclose.



# Questions?

- Webpage  
[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/mainstream](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/mainstream)
- Listserv sign-up on webpage
- Submit your questions to [MainstreamVouchers@hud.gov](mailto:MainstreamVouchers@hud.gov).
- During the NOFA open period, questions will be answered via the Q&A posted to the [Mainstream webpage](#) to ensure that everyone has access to the same information.