Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 902.1 Purpose and general description.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) is to improve the delivery of services in public housing and enhance trust in the public housing system among public housing agencies (PHAs), public housing residents, HUD and the general public by providing a management tool for effectively and fairly measuring the performance of a PHA in essential housing operations, including rewards for high performers and consequences for poor performers.

(b) Responsible office for PHAS assessments. The Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) is responsible for assessing and scoring the performance of PHAs.

(c) PHAS indicators of a PHA’s performance. REAC will assess and score a PHA’s performance based on the following four indicators:

1. PHAS Indicator #1—the physical condition of a PHA’s properties (addressed in subpart B of this part);
2. PHAS Indicator #2—the financial condition of a PHA (addressed in subpart C of this part);
3. PHAS Indicator #3—the management operations of a PHA (addressed in subpart D of this part); and
4. PHAS Indicator #4—the resident service and satisfaction feedback on a PHA’s operations (addressed in subpart E of this part).

(d) Assessment tools. REAC will make use of uniform and objective protocols for the physical inspection of properties and the financial assessment of the PHA, and will gather relevant data from the PHA and the PHA’s public housing residents to assess management operations and resident services and satisfaction, respectively. On the basis of this data, REAC will assess and score the results, advise PHAs of their scores and identify low scoring and failing PHAs so that these PHAs will receive the appropriate attention and assistance.

(e) Limitation of change of PHA’s fiscal year. To allow for a period of consistent assessment of the PHAS indicators, a PHA is not permitted to change its fiscal year for the first three full fiscal years following October 1, 1998, unless such change is approved by HUD.

§ 902.3 Scope.

The PHAS is a strategic measure of a PHA’s essential housing operations. The PHAS, however, does not evaluate a PHA’s compliance with or response to every Department-wide or program specific requirement or objective. Although not specifically referenced in this part, PHAs remain responsible for complying with such requirements as fair housing and equal opportunity requirements, requirements under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and requirements of programs under which the PHA is receiving assistance. A PHA’s adherence to these requirements will be monitored in accordance with the applicable program regulations and the PHA’s Annual Contributions Contract (ACC).

§ 902.5 Applicability.

(a) PHAs, RMCs, AMEs. (1) Scoring of RMCs and AMEs. This part applies to