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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 1437f and 3535(d).

SOURCE: 59 FR 36682, July 18, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 982 appear at 64 FR 26640, May 14, 1999.

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