§ 1309.12 Timely decisions.
The responsible HHS official shall promptly review and make final decisions regarding completed applications under this part.

Subpart C—Protection of Federal Interest

§ 1309.20 Title.
Title to facilities acquired with grant funds vests with the grantee upon acquisition, subject to the provisions of this part.

§ 1309.21 Recording of Federal interest and other protection of Federal interest.
(a) The Federal government has an interest in all real property and equipment acquired or upon which major renovations have been undertaken with grant funds for use as a Head Start facility. The responsible HHS official may subordinate the Federal interest in such property to that of a lender, which financed the acquisition or major renovation costs subject to the conditions set forth in paragraph (f) of this section.
(b) Facilities acquired with grant funds may not be mortgaged or used as collateral, or sold or otherwise transferred to another party, without the written permission of the responsible HHS official.
(c) Use of the facility for other than the purpose for which the facility was funded, without the express written approval of the responsible HHS official, is prohibited.
(d)(1) A grantee receiving funds to acquire or make major renovations to a facility that is or will be sited on land not owned by the grantee must have a lease or other arrangement which protects the Federal interest in the facility and ensures the grantee’s undisturbed use and possession of the facility. The lease or document evidencing another arrangement shall include provisions to protect the right of the grantee, or some other organization designated by ACF in the place of the grantee, to occupy the facility for the term of the lease or other arrangement and such other terms required by the responsible HHS official. The designation of an alternate tenant or occupant of the facility by ACF shall be subject to approval by the Lessor, which will not be withheld except for good reason, not including the willingness of another party to pay a higher rent. A grantee receiving funds for the major renovation or acquisition of a facility, on land belonging to another party, must have a land lease or other similar interest in the underlying land which is long enough to allow the Head Start program to receive the full value of those permanent grant-supported improvements.
(2) Except as required under §1309.31 for certain modular units, the grantee must record the Notice of Federal Interest in the appropriate official records for the jurisdiction where a facility is or will be located immediately upon: purchasing a facility or land on which a facility is to be constructed; receiving permission to use funds to continue purchase of a facility; commencing major renovation of a facility or construction of a facility. In the case of a leased facility undergoing major renovations, the Notice of Federal Interest shall be a copy of the executed lease and all amendments. In the case of a facility now sited or to be constructed on land not owned by the grantee, the Notice of Federal Interest shall be the land lease or other document protecting the Federal interest. The lease or other document must ensure the right of the grantee to have undisturbed use and possession of the facility. In the event that filing of a lease is prohibited by State law, the grantee shall file an affidavit signed by the representatives of the grantee and the Lessor stating that the lease includes terms which protect the right of the grantee, or some other organization designated by ACF in the place of the grantee, to occupy the facility for the term of the lease.
(3) The Notice of Federal Interest for property sited on land not owned by the grantee shall include the following information:
(i) The date of the award of grant funds for the acquisition or major renovation of the property to be used as a Head Start facility, and the address and legal description of the property to be acquired or renovated;

(ii) That the grant incorporated conditions which included restrictions on the use of the property and provide for a Federal interest in the property;

(iii) That the property may not be used for any purpose inconsistent with that authorized by the Head Start Act and applicable regulations;

(iv) That the property may not be mortgaged or used as collateral, sold or otherwise transferred to another party, without the written permission of the responsible HHS official;

(v) That these grant conditions and requirements cannot be altered or nullified through a transfer of ownership; and

(vi) The name (including signature) and title of the person who completed the Notice for the grantee agency, and the date of the Notice.

(4) A lease, serving as a Notice of Federal Interest, an affidavit filed in the land records as a substitute for the lease, or other document protecting the Federal interest in a facility acquired with grant funds and sited on land not owned by the grantee, shall include the following information:

(i) The address and legal description of the property;

(ii) That the grant incorporated conditions which include restrictions on the use of the property and provide for a Federal interest in the property for the term of the lease or other arrangement; and

(iii) That the property may not be used for any purpose during the lease or other arrangement that is inconsistent with that authorized by the Head Start Act and applicable regulations.

(e) Grantees must meet all of the requirements in 45 CFR parts 74 or 92 pertaining to the purchase and disposition of real property, or the use and disposal of equipment, as appropriate.

(f) In subordinating its interest in a facility acquired or upon which major renovations have been undertaken with grant funds, the responsible HHS official does not waive application of paragraph (d) of this section and §1309.22. A written agreement by the responsible HHS official to subordinate the Federal interest must provide:

(1)(i) The lender shall notify the Office of the Regional Administrator, Administration for Children and Families, the Office of the Commissioner, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Washington, D.C., and the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC, or their successor agencies, immediately, both telephonically and in writing of any default by the Head Start grantee;

(ii) Written notice of default must be sent by registered mail return receipt requested; and,

(iii) The lender will not foreclose on the property until at least 60 days after the required notice by the lender has been sent.

(2) Such notice will include:

(i) The full names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the lender and the Head Start grantee;

(ii) The following statement prominently displayed at the top of the first page of the notice: “The Federal Interest in certain real property or equipment used for the Head Start Program may be at risk. Immediately give this notice to the appropriate government official!”;

(iii) The date and nature of the default and the manner in which the default may be cured; and

(iv) In the event that the lender will be exercising its remedy of foreclosure or other remedies, the date or expected date of the foreclosure or other remedies.

(3) Head Start grantees which purchase facilities with respect to which the responsible HHS official has subordinated the Federal Interest to that of the lender must keep the lender informed of the current addresses and telephone numbers of the agencies to which the lender is obligated under paragraph (b) of this section to give notice in the event of a default.

[64 FR 5945, Feb. 8, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 23221, May 1, 2003]