

## Office of the Secretary, HUD

## § 5.2003

a unique entity identifier and submit the number to HUD.

(c) Individuals who would personally receive a grant or other assistance from HUD, independent from any business or nonprofit organization with which they may operate or participate, are exempt from this requirement.

(d) In cases where individuals apply for funding, but the funding will be awarded to an institution or other entity on the individual's behalf, the institution or entity must obtain a unique entity identifier and the individual must submit the institution's unique entity identifier number with the application.

(e) Unless an exemption is granted by OMB, HUD will not consider an application as complete until a valid unique entity identifier is provided by the applicant. For classes of grants and grantees subject to this part, exceptions to this rule must be submitted to OMB for approval in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Department.

[69 FR 15673, Mar. 26, 2004, as amended at 80 FR 75934, Dec. 7, 2015]

### § 5.1004 System of award management.

Applicants for HUD financial assistance that are subject to this subpart are required to register with the System of Award Management (SAM) and have an active registration in SAM in accordance with 2 CFR part 25, appendix A in order for HUD to obligate funds and for an awardee to receive an award of funds from HUD.

[75 FR 41089, July 15, 2010, as amended at 80 FR 75934, Dec. 7, 2015]

### § 5.1005 Electronic submission of applications for grants and other financial assistance.

Applicants described under 24 CFR 5.1001 are required to submit electronic applications or plans for grants and other financial assistance in response to any application that HUD has placed on the *www.grants.gov/Apply* Web site or its successor. The HUD Assistant Secretary, General Deputy Assistant Secretary or, the individual authorized to perform duties and responsibilities of these positions, with authority over the specific program for which the waiver is sought, may in writing, waive

the electronic submission requirement for an applicant on the basis of good cause.

[70 FR 77294, Dec. 29, 2005]

## Subpart L—Protection for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking in Public and Section 8 Housing

SOURCE: 75 FR 66258, Oct. 27, 2010, unless otherwise noted.

### § 5.2001 Applicability.

This subpart addresses the protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking residing in public and Section 8 housing, as provided in the 1937 Act, as amended by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) (42 U.S.C. 1437f and 42 U.S.C. 1437d). This subpart applies to the Housing Choice Voucher program under 24 CFR part 982, the project-based voucher and certificate programs under 24 CFR part 983, the public housing admission and occupancy requirements under 24 CFR part 960, and renewed funding or leases of the Section 8 project-based program under 24 CFR parts 880, 882, 883, 884, 886, and 891.

### § 5.2003 Definitions.

The definitions of *1937 Act*, *PHA*, *HUD*, *household*, *responsible entity*, and *other person under the tenant's control* are defined in subpart A of this part. As used in this subpart L:

*Bifurcate* means, with respect to a public housing or a Section 8 lease, to divide a lease as a matter of law such that certain tenants can be evicted or removed while the remaining family members' lease and occupancy rights are allowed to remain intact.

*Dating violence* means violence committed by a person:

(1) Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and

(2) Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

- (i) The length of the relationship;
- (ii) The type of relationship; and

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(iii) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

*Domestic violence* includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

*Immediate family member* means, with respect to a person:

(1) A spouse, parent, brother, or sister, or child of that person, or an individual to whom that person stands in loco parentis; or

(2) Any other person living in the household of that person and related to that person by blood or marriage.

*Stalking* means:

(1)(i) To follow, pursue, or repeatedly commit acts with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person; or

(ii) To place under surveillance with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person; and

(2) In the course of, or as a result of, such following, pursuit, surveillance, or repeatedly committed acts, to place a person in reasonable fear of the death of, or serious bodily injury to, or to cause substantial emotional harm to

(i) That person,

(ii) A member of the immediate family of that person, or

(iii) The spouse or intimate partner of that person.

*VAWA* means the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-162, approved August 28, 2006), as amended by the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d and 42 U.S. 1437f).

### § 5.2005 VAWA protections.

(a) *Notice of VAWA protections.* (1) PHAs must provide notice to public housing and Section 8 tenants of their rights under VAWA and this subpart,

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including the right to confidentiality and the exceptions; and

(2) PHAs must provide notice to owners and management agents of assisted housing, of their rights and obligations under VAWA and this subpart; and

(3) Owners and management agents of assisted housing administering an Office of Housing project-based Section 8 program must provide notice to Section 8 tenants of their rights and obligations under VAWA and this subpart.

(4) The HUD-required lease, lease addendum, or tenancy addendum, as applicable, must include a description of specific protections afforded to the victims of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, as provided in this subpart.

(b) *Applicants.* Admission to the program shall not be denied on the basis that the applicant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, if the applicant otherwise qualifies for assistance or admission.

(c) *Tenants—(1) Domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.* An incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be construed as a serious or repeated lease violation by the victim or threatened victim of the domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, or as good cause to terminate the tenancy of, occupancy rights of, or assistance to the victim.

(2) *Criminal activity related to domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.* Criminal activity directly related to domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, engaged in by a member of a tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control, shall not be cause for termination of tenancy of, occupancy rights of, or assistance to the victim, if the tenant or immediate family member of the tenant is the victim.

(d) *Limitations of VAWA protections.* (1) Nothing in this section limits the authority of the PHA, owner, or management agent to evict a tenant or terminate assistance for a lease violation unrelated to domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, provided that the PHA, owner, or management agent does not subject such a tenant to a more demanding standard than other

tenants in making the determination whether to evict, or to terminate assistance or occupancy rights;

(2) Nothing in this section may be construed to limit the authority of a PHA, owner, or management agent to evict or terminate assistance to any tenant or lawful occupant if the PHA, owner, or management agent can demonstrate an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or those employed at or providing service to the public housing or Section 8 assisted property if that tenant or lawful occupant is not terminated from assistance. In this context, words, gestures, actions, or other indicators will be considered an "actual imminent threat" if they meet the standards provided in paragraph (e) of this section.

(3) Any eviction or termination of assistance, as provided in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, should be utilized by a PHA, owner, or management agent only when there are no other actions that could be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat, including, but not limited to, transferring the victim to a different unit, barring the perpetrator from the property, contacting law enforcement to increase police presence or develop other plans to keep the property safe, or seeking other legal remedies to prevent the perpetrator from acting on a threat. Restrictions predicated on public safety cannot be based on stereotypes, but must be tailored to particularized concerns about individual residents.

(e) *Actual and imminent threat.* An actual and imminent threat consists of a physical danger that is real, would occur within an immediate time frame, and could result in death or serious bodily harm. In determining whether an individual would pose an actual and imminent threat, the factors to be considered include: The duration of the risk, the nature and severity of the potential harm, the likelihood that the potential harm will occur, and the length of time before the potential harm would occur.

**§ 5.2007 Documenting the occurrence of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.**

(a) *Request for documentation.* A PHA, owner, or management agent presented

with a claim for continued or initial tenancy or assistance based on status as a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or criminal activity related to domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking may request that the individual making the claim document the abuse. The request for documentation must be in writing. The PHA, owner, or management agent may require submission of documentation within 14 business days after the date that the individual received the request for documentation. However, the PHA, owner, or management agent may extend this time period at its discretion.

(b) *Forms of documentation.* The documentation required under this section:

(1) May consist of a HUD-approved certification form indicating that the individual is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, and that the incident or incidents in question are bona fide incidents of such actual or threatened abuse. Such certification must include the name of the perpetrator, and may be based solely on the personal signed attestation of the victim; or

(2) May consist of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local police report or court record; or

(3) May consist of documentation signed by an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or medical professional, from whom the victim has sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, or the effects of abuse, in which the professional attests under penalty of perjury under 28 U.S.C. 1746 to the professional's belief that the incident or incidents in question are bona fide incidents of abuse, and the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking has signed or attested to the documentation; and

(4) Shall be kept confidential by the PHA, owner, or management agent. The PHA, owner, or management agent shall not:

(i) Enter the information contained in the documentation into any shared database;

(ii) Allow employees of the PHA, owner, or management agent, or those within their employ (e.g., contractors)

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to have access to such information unless explicitly authorized by the PHA, owner, or management agent for reasons that specifically call for these employees or those within their employ to have access to this information; and

(iii) Disclose this information to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that disclosure is:

(A) Requested or consented to by the individual making the documentation, in writing;

(B) Required for use in an eviction proceeding, or

(C) Otherwise required by applicable law.

(c) *Failure to provide documentation.* In order to deny relief for protection under VAWA, a PHA, owner, or management agent must provide the individual with a written request for documentation of the abuse. If the individual fails to provide the documentation within 14 business days from the date of receipt of the PHA's, owner's, or management agent's written request, or such longer time as the PHA, owner, or management agent at their discretion may allow, VAWA protections do not limit the authority of the PHA, owner, or management agent to evict or terminate assistance of the tenant or a family member for violations of the lease or family obligations that otherwise would constitute good cause to evict or grounds for termination. The 14-business day window for submission of documentation does not begin until the individual receives the written request. The PHA, owner, or management agency has discretionary authority to extend the statutory 14-day period.

(d) *Discretion to provide relief.* At its discretion, a PHA, owner, or management agent may provide benefits to an individual based solely on the individual's verbal statement or other corroborating evidence. A PHA's, owner's, or management agent's compliance with this section, whether based solely on the individual's verbal statements or other corroborating evidence, shall not alone be sufficient to constitute evidence of an unreasonable act or omission by a PHA, PHA employee, owner, or employee or agent of the owner. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to limit liability for

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failure to comply with the requirements of 24 CFR part 5.

(e) *Response to conflicting certification.* In cases where the PHA, owner, or management agent receives conflicting certification documents from two or more members of a household, each claiming to be a victim and naming one or more of the other petitioning household members as the perpetrator, a PHA, owner, or management agent may determine which is the true victim by requiring third-party documentation as described in this section and in accordance with any HUD guidance as to how such determinations will be made. A PHA, owner, or management agent shall honor any court orders addressing rights of access or control of the property, including civil protection orders issued to protect the victim and issued to address the distribution or possession of property among the household.

### § 5.2009 Remedies available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking in HUD-assisted housing.

(a) *Lease bifurcation.* Notwithstanding any Federal, State, or local law to the contrary, a PHA, owner, or management agent may bifurcate a lease, or remove a household member from a lease without regard to whether the household member is a signatory to the lease, in order to evict, remove, terminate occupancy rights, or terminate assistance to any tenant or lawful occupant who engages in criminal acts of physical violence against family members or others, without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing the victim of such violence who is a tenant or lawful occupant. Such eviction, removal, termination of occupancy rights, or termination of assistance shall be effected in accordance with the procedures prescribed by Federal, State, or local law for termination of assistance or leases under the relevant public housing, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, and Section 8 project-based programs.

(b) *Court orders.* Nothing in this subpart may be construed to limit the authority of a PHA, owner, or management agent, when notified, to honor court orders addressing rights of access

to or control of the property, including civil protection orders issued to protect the victim and to address the distribution of property among household members in a case where a family breaks up.

**§ 5.2011 Effect on other laws.**

Nothing in this subpart shall be construed to supersede any provision of any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection than this section for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.

**PART 6—NONDISCRIMINATION IN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES RECEIVING ASSISTANCE UNDER TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974**

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 3535(d) 42 U.S.C. 5309.

SOURCE: 64 FR 3797, Jan. 25, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 6.1 Purpose.**

The purpose of this part is to implement the provisions of section 109 of title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Title I) (42 U.S.C. 5309). Section 109 provides that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with Federal financial assistance. Section 109 does not directly prohibit discrimination on

the bases of age or disability, and the regulations in this part 6 do not apply to age or disability discrimination in Title I programs. Instead, section 109 directs that the prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101–6107) (Age Discrimination Act) and the prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of disability under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) (Section 504) apply to programs or activities funded in whole or in part with Federal financial assistance. Thus, the regulations of 24 CFR part 8, which implement Section 504 for HUD programs, and the regulations of 24 CFR part 146, which implement the Age Discrimination Act for HUD programs, apply to disability and age discrimination in Title I programs.

**§ 6.2 Applicability.**

(a) This part applies to any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, including Community Development Block Grants—Entitlement, State and HUD-Administered Small Cities, and Section 108 Loan Guarantees; Urban Development Action Grants; Economic Development Initiative Grants; and Special Purpose Grants.

(b) The provisions of this part and sections 104(b)(2) and 109 of Title I that relate to discrimination on the basis of race shall not apply to the provision of Federal financial assistance by grantees under this title to the Hawaiian Homelands (42 U.S.C. 5309).

(c) The provisions of this part and sections 104(b)(2) and 109 of Title I that relate to discrimination on the basis of race and national origin shall not apply to the provision of Federal financial assistance to grant recipients under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (25 U.S.C. 4101). See also, 24 CFR 1003.601(a).

**§ 6.3 Definitions.**

The terms *Department*, *HUD*, and *Secretary* are defined in 24 CFR part 5. Other terms used in this part 6 are defined as follows: