

§ 1304.2

45 CFR Ch. XIII (10–1–24 Edition)

not apply to any administrative action based upon any violation, or alleged violation, of title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Except as otherwise provided for in this subpart, the appeals and processes in this subpart will be governed by the Departmental Appeals Board regulations at 45 CFR part 16.

§ 1304.2 Monitoring.

(a) *Areas of noncompliance.* If a responsible HHS official determines through monitoring, pursuant to section 641(A)(c)(1) and (2) of the Act, that a grant recipient fails to comply with any of the standards described in parts 1301, 1302, and 1303 of this chapter, the official will notify the grant recipient promptly in writing, identify the area of noncompliance, and specify when the grant recipient must correct the area of noncompliance.

(b) *Deficiencies.* If the Secretary determines that a grant recipient meets one of the criteria for a deficiency, as defined in section 637(2)(C) of the Act, the Secretary shall inform the grant recipient of the deficiency. The grant recipient must correct the deficiency pursuant to section 641A(e)(1)(B) of the Act, as the responsible HHS official determines.

(c) *Quality improvement plans.* If the responsible HHS official does not require the grant recipient to correct a deficiency immediately as prescribed under section 641A(e)(1)(B)(i) of the Act, the grant recipient must submit to the official, for approval, a quality improvement plan that adheres to section 641A(e)(2)(A) of the Act.

§ 1304.3 Suspension with notice.

(a) *Grounds to suspend financial assistance with notice.* If a grant recipient breaches or threatens to breach any requirement stated in §§1304.3 through 1304.5, the responsible HHS official may suspend the grant recipient's financial assistance, in whole or in part, after it has given the grant recipient notice and an opportunity to show cause why assistance should not be suspended.

(b) *Notice requirements.* (1) The responsible HHS official must notify the grant recipient in writing that ACF intends to suspend financial assistance, in whole or in part. The notice must:

(i) Specify grounds for the suspension;

(ii) Include the date suspension will become effective;

(iii) Inform the grant recipient that it has the opportunity to submit to the responsible HHS official, at least seven days before suspension becomes effective, any written material it would like the official to consider, and to inform the grant recipient that it may request, in writing, no later than seven days after the suspension notice was mailed, to have an informal meeting with the responsible HHS official;

(iv) Invite the grant recipient to voluntarily correct the deficiency; and,

(v) Include a copy of this subpart.

(2) The responsible HHS official must promptly transmit the suspension notice to the grant recipient. The notice becomes effective when the grant recipient receives the notice, when the grant recipient refuses delivery, or when the suspension notice is returned to sender unclaimed.

(3) The responsible HHS official must send a copy of the suspension notice to any delegate agency whose actions or whose failures to act substantially caused or contributed to the proposed suspension. The responsible HHS official will inform the delegate agency that it is entitled to submit written material to oppose the suspension and to participate in the informal meeting, if one is held. In addition, the responsible HHS official may give notice to the grant recipient's other delegate agencies.

(4) After the grant recipient receives the suspension notice, it has three days to send a copy of the notice to delegate agencies that would be financially affected by a suspension.

(c) *Opportunity to show cause.* The grant recipient may submit to the responsible HHS official any written material to show why financial assistance should not be suspended. The grant recipient may also request, in writing, to have an informal meeting with the responsible HHS official. If the grant recipient requests an informal meeting, the responsible HHS official must schedule the meeting within seven days after the grant recipient receives the suspension notice.