

§ 401.201 How does HUD select PAEs?

(a) *Selection of PAE.* HUD will select qualified PAEs in accordance with the criteria established in 513(b) of MAHRA and criteria established by HUD. The selection method is within HUD's discretion, including but not limited to a request for qualifications.

(b) *Priority for public agencies.* HUD will provide a one-time priority period for State housing finance agencies and local housing agencies to qualify as the PAEs for their jurisdictions. If more than one agency qualifies for the same jurisdiction, HUD will provide an opportunity for the agencies to allocate responsibility for projects in the jurisdiction. If the agencies are unable to agree, HUD will choose a PAE in accordance with section 513(b)(2) of MAHRA.

(c) *Qualification for PAE by nonprofit and for profit entities.* After the priority period expires, HUD will consider other eligible entities as PAEs for jurisdictions in which no public agency has qualified as the PAE, or for projects that have not been assigned to a qualified public agency.

(d) *No PAE for project.* If HUD does not select a PAE for a project, HUD may perform the functions of the PAE, or contract with other qualified entities to perform those functions.

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§ 401.300 What is a PRA?

A PRA is an agreement between HUD and a PAE that delineates rights and responsibilities in connection with development and implementation of a Restructuring Plan. The PRA must contain the matters required by section 513(a)(2) of MAHRA, and §§ 401.301 through 401.314, as well as other terms and conditions required by HUD.

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§ 401.301 Business arrangements.

If the PAE is in a partnership, the PRA must specify the following:

- (a) The responsibilities of each partner regarding the Restructuring Plan;
- (b) The resources each partner will provide to accomplish its designated responsibilities; and

- (c) All compensation to each partner, whether direct or indirect.

§ 401.302 PRA administrative requirements.

(a) *Inapplicability of certain requirements.* Parts 84 and 85 of this title and contract procurement requirements do not apply to a PRA.

(b) *Recordkeeping.* The PAE must keep complete and accurate records of all activities related to the PAE's performance under the PRA. The PAE must retain the records for at least 3 years after the PRA terminates.

(c) *Inspection of records and audit.* Upon reasonable notice, the PAE must permit the Comptroller General of the United States and HUD (including representatives of the HUD Office of Inspector General) to inspect, audit and copy any records required to be retained under this section.

401.303 PRA indemnity provisions for SHFAs and HAs.

When a PRA requires HUD to indemnify a PAE in accordance with section 513(a)(2)(G) of MAHRA, any payment under this indemnity is contingent upon the availability of funds that are permitted by law to be used for this purpose.

§ 401.304 PRA provisions on PAE compensation.

(a) *Base fee.* The PRA will provide for a base fee to be paid by HUD.

(b) *Incentives.* The PRA may provide for incentives to be paid by HUD for achievement of stated objectives.

(c) *Expenses.* The PRA will identify expenses incurred by the PAE that will qualify for reimbursement by HUD.

§ 401.307 On-going responsibility of PAE.

The PRA must provide for on-going activities necessary to implement the Restructuring Plan after the closing under § 401.407.

§ 401.309 PRA term and termination provisions; other remedies.

(a) *1-year term with renewals.* The PRA will have a term of 1 year, to be renewed for successive terms of 1 year with the mutual agreement of both parties. The PRA will provide for HUD

to pay final compensation to the PAE and to assign responsibility for continuing activities if the PRA is not renewed.

(b) *Termination for cause.* A PRA will be subject to termination by HUD at any time for cause, with payment required by HUD as provided in the PRA only for matters performed by the PAE to the date of termination. When cause for termination exists, HUD may order an immediate transfer of some or all of the PAE's duties to another PAE designated by HUD. HUD may temporarily waive its right of immediate termination for cause in order to allow an orderly transfer of duties and responsibilities under a PRA, without waiving the right of termination after the transfer has been completed to HUD's satisfaction. HUD will retain the right of set-off against any payments due as well as such other rights afforded at law and in equity.

(c) *Liability for damages.* During the term of a PRA, or notwithstanding any termination of a PRA, HUD may seek its actual, direct, and consequential damages from any PAE failure to comply with its obligations under the PRA.

(d) *Cumulative remedies.* The remedies under this section are cumulative and in addition to any other remedies or rights HUD may have under the terms of the PRA, at law, or otherwise.

§ 401.310 Conflicts of interest.

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Conflict of interest.* A conflict of interest is a situation in which a PAE or other restricted person has:

(i) A financial interest in a matter relating to the PRA;

(ii) One or more personal, business, or financial interests or relationships which would cause a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts to question the integrity or impartiality of those who are or will be acting under the PRA; or

(iii) Is taking an adverse position to HUD or to an owner whose project is covered by a PRA in a lawsuit, administrative proceeding or other contested matter.

(2) *Control* means the power to vote, directly or indirectly, 25 percent or more of any class of the voting stock of a company; the ability to direct in any

manner the election of a majority of a company (or other entity's) directors or trustees; or the ability to exercise a controlling influence over the company or entity's management and policies. For purposes of this definition, a general partner of a limited partnership is presumed to be in control of that partnership.

(3) *Restricted person* means a PAE; any management official of the PAE; any legal entity that is under the control of the PAE, is in control of the PAE or is under common control with the PAE; or any employee, agent or contractor of the PAE, or employee of such agent or contractor, who will perform or has performed services under a PRA with HUD.

(b) *General prohibitions.* (1) The PAE may not permit conflicts of interest to exist without obtaining a waiver in accordance with this section.

(2) The PAE must establish procedures to identify conflicts of interest and to ensure that conflicts of interest do not arise or continue, subject to waiver under paragraph (c) of this section.

(3) HUD will not enter into PRAs with potential PAEs who have conflicts of interest associated with a particular project, or permit PAEs to continue performance under existing PRAs when such PAEs have conflicts of interest, unless such conflicts have been eliminated to HUD's satisfaction by the PAE or potential PAE or are waived by HUD.

(4) The PAE has a continuing obligation to take all action necessary to identify whether it or any other restricted person has a conflict of interest.

(c) *Waivers.* HUD will waive conflicts of interest only when, in light of all relevant circumstances, the interests of HUD in the PAE's or another restricted persons's participation outweigh the concern that a reasonable person may question the integrity of HUD's operations.

(d) *Conflicts of interest arising prior to PAE selection.* (1) *Request for review of conflicts of interest.* (i) A potential PAE, with its request to HUD for consideration for selection as a PAE, must identify existing conflicts of interest and may make a written request for a