

### Subpart E—Admission to Tenant-Based Program

#### § 982.201 Eligibility.

(a) *When applicant is eligible: general.* The HA may only admit an eligible family to a program. To be eligible, the applicant must be a “family”, must be income-eligible, and must be a citizen or a noncitizen who has eligible immigration status as determined in accordance with 24 CFR part 5.

(b) *Income.* (1) *To be income eligible, the family must be either:*

(i) A “very low-income” family; or  
(ii) A “low-income” family in any of the following categories:

(A) A low-income family that is “continuously assisted” under the 1937 Housing Act.

(B) A low-income family physically displaced by rental rehabilitation activity under 24 CFR part 511.

(C) A low-income non-purchasing family residing in a HOPE 1 (HOPE for Public and Indian Housing Homeownership) or HOPE 2 (HOPE for Homeownership of Multifamily Units) project.

(D) A low-income non-purchasing family residing in a project subject to a homeownership program under 24 CFR 248.173.

(E) A low-income family displaced as a result of the prepayment of a mortgage or voluntary termination of a mortgage insurance contract under 24 CFR 248.165.

(F) For the certificate program only, a low-income family residing in a HUD-owned multifamily rental housing project when HUD sells, forecloses or demolishes the project.

(2) The HA determines whether the family is income-eligible by comparing the family’s annual income (gross income) with the HUD-established very low-income limit or low-income limit for the area. The applicable income limit for issuance of a certificate or voucher when a family is selected for the program is the highest income limit (for the family unit size) for areas in the HA jurisdiction. The applicable income limit for admission to the program is the income limit for the area where the family is initially assisted in the program. The family may only use the certificate or voucher to

rent a unit in an area where the family is income eligible at admission to the program.

(c) *Family composition.* (1) A “family” may be a single person or a group of persons.

(2) A “family” includes a family with a child or children.

(3) A group of persons consisting of two or more elderly persons or disabled persons living together, or one or more elderly or disabled persons living with one or more live-in aides is a family. The HA determines if any other group of persons qualifies as a “family”.

(4) A single person family may be:

(i) An elderly person.

(ii) A displaced person.

(iii) A disabled person.

(iv) Any other single person.

(5) A child who is temporarily away from the home because of placement in foster care is considered a member of the family.

(d) *Continuously assisted.* (1) An applicant is continuously assisted under the 1937 Housing Act if the family is already receiving assistance under any 1937 Housing Act program when the family is admitted to the certificate or voucher program.

(2) The HA must establish policies concerning whether and to what extent a brief interruption between assistance under one of these programs and admission to the certificate or voucher program will be considered to break continuity of assistance under the 1937 Housing Act.

(e) *When HA verifies that applicant is eligible.* The HA must receive information verifying that an applicant is eligible within the period of 60 days before the HA issues a certificate or voucher to the applicant.

(f) *Decision to deny assistance—(1) Notice to applicant.* The HA must give an applicant prompt written notice of a decision denying admission to the program (including a decision that the applicant is not eligible, or denying assistance for other reasons). The notice must give a brief statement of the reasons for the decision. The notice must also state that the applicant may request an informal review of the decision, and state how to arrange for the informal review.

(2) *Grounds for decision.* For a discussion of the grounds for denying assistance because of action or inaction by the applicant, see § 982.552.

[59 FR 36682, July 18, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 34717, July 3, 1995; 61 FR 13627, Mar. 27, 1996]

**§ 982.202 How applicants are selected: General requirements.**

(a) *Waiting list admissions and special admissions.* The HA may admit an applicant for participation in the program either:

(1) As a special admission (see § 982.203).

(2) As a waiting list admission (see § 982.204 through § 982.210).

(b) *Prohibited admission criteria—(1) Family suitability for tenancy.* The owner selects the tenant. The owner decides whether the family is suitable for tenancy. The HA decision whether to admit an applicant to the program may not be based on an applicant's suitability for tenancy. The HA may deny assistance to an applicant because of drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity by family members. (See § 982.553.)

(2) *Where family lives.* Admission to the program may not be based on where the family lives before admission to the program. However, the HA may target assistance for families who live in public housing or other federally assisted housing, or may adopt a HUD-approved residency preference (see § 982.208).

(3) *Where family will live.* Admission to the program may not be based on where the family will live with assistance under the program.

(4) *Family characteristics.* Admission to the program may not be based on:

(i) Discrimination because members of the family are unwed parents, recipients of public assistance, or children born out of wedlock;

(ii) Discrimination because a family includes children (familial status discrimination);

(iii) Discrimination because of age, race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;

(iv) Discrimination because of disability; or

(v) Whether a family decides to participate in a family self-sufficiency program.

(c) *Applicant status.* An applicant does not have any right or entitlement to be listed on the HA waiting list, to any particular position on the waiting list, or to admission to the programs. The preceding sentence does not affect or prejudice any right, independent of this rule, to bring a judicial action challenging an HA violation of a constitutional or statutory requirement.

(d) *Admission policy.* The HA must admit applicants for participation in accordance with HUD regulations and other requirements, and with policies stated in the HA administrative plan. The HA admission policy must state the system of admission preferences that the HA uses to select applicants from the waiting list, including any federal preference, ranking preference, local preference and residency preference.

[59 FR 36682, July 18, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 34717, July 3, 1995; 61 FR 9048, Mar. 6, 1996; 61 FR 27163, May 30, 1996]

**§ 982.203 Special admission (non-waiting list): Assistance targeted by HUD.**

(a) If HUD awards an HA program funding that is targeted for families living in specified units:

(1) The HA must use the assistance for the families living in these units.

(2) The HA may admit a family that is not on the HA waiting list, or without considering the family's waiting list position. The HA must maintain records showing that the family was admitted with HUD-targeted assistance.

(b) The following are examples of types of program funding that may be targeted for a family living in a specified unit:

(1) A family displaced because of demolition or disposition of a public or Indian housing project;

(2) A family residing in a multifamily rental housing project when HUD sells, forecloses or demolishes the project;

(3) For housing covered by the Low Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (41 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.):