

The purpose of the evaluation is to determine whether the demonstration affects Medicare expenditures, access to care, quality of care, diversity of product selection, and industry competitiveness. The evaluation will also examine any problems associated with implementing competitive bidding for Part B services. Results of the evaluation will be used by HCFA and Congress to determine whether it is feasible to expand competitive bidding.

The research questions to be addressed by the surveys focus on access, quality, and product selection. Our information collection process will include fielding a survey for oxygen users and a survey for other medical equipment and supplies users before the demonstration begins and again after the new demonstration prices have been put into effect. Beneficiaries within the demonstration area will be surveyed; we will also survey beneficiaries within a control site that is similar to the demonstration site in terms of population, managed care penetration, volume of services, and number of beneficiaries. We will also control for socioeconomic factors when analyzing the data. This design will allow us to separate the effects of the demonstration from beneficiary- or site-specific effects.

This evaluation has been expanded to a second site, San Antonio, Texas, as of March 2000. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 allowed for the demonstration to be conducted in up to three different regions. The demonstration has been ongoing in the first site, Polk County, Florida, since 1999. The baseline Polk County beneficiary surveys were conducted between March and June of 1999. The follow-up Polk County beneficiary surveys will be conducted during the fall of 2000.

We are seeking approval for the new beneficiary surveys (Baseline and Follow-up) for the San Antonio demonstration and comparison site and any subsequent demonstration and comparison sites that include the same DME and POS products. The surveys for the second site, San Antonio, are almost identical to the surveys used in the first site, Polk County, Florida.;

Frequency: Annually;

Affected Public: Individuals or Households;

Number of Respondents: 2,500;

Total Annual Responses: 2,500;

Total Annual Hours: 725.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone

number, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden or any other aspect of these collections of Information requirements. However, as noted above, comments on these Information collection and recordkeeping requirements must be mailed and/or faxed to the designees referenced below, within ten working days:

Health Care Financing Administration,
Office of Information Services,
Security and Standards Group,
Division of HCFA Enterprise
Standards, Attention: Dawn
Willingham, Room N2-14-26, 7500
Security Boulevard, Baltimore,
Maryland 21244-1850

and

Office of Information and Regulatory
Affairs, Office of Management and
Budget, Room 10235, New Executive
Office Building, Washington, DC
20503, Fax Number: (202) 395-6974
or (202) 395-5167, Attn: Allison
Herron Eyd, HCFA Desk Officer.

Dated: July 31, 2000.

John P. Burke III,

*HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA,
Office of Information Services, Security and
Standards Group, Division of HCFA
Enterprise Standards.*

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4560-N-09]

Notice Concerning Use of Remaining Unobligated Funds Under HUD's Designated Housing and Certain Developments Funding Availability Announcements

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant
Secretary for Public and Indian
Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On February 24, 2000, HUD published its Fiscal Year 2000 Super Notice of Funding Availability (SuperNOFA) for HUD's Housing, Community Development, and Empowerment Programs and Section 8 Housing Voucher Assistance. The Fiscal Year 2000 SuperNOFA included three funding availability announcements for Section 8 voucher assistance for persons with disabilities. HUD advised that any funds remaining unobligated under two of the Section 8 voucher programs would be used to fund applications for

the third program. This document notifies the public that HUD now intends to use a portion of these remaining unobligated funds to provide vouchers to non-elderly persons with disabilities who are seeking to move from nursing homes and other institutional settings to housing in their local communities. Availability of voucher assistance for this purpose will be the subject of a separate **Federal Register** notice.

DATES: The application due dates for funding under the three programs in the Supplementary Information section of this notice have passed, and the application periods are closed. This notice does not reopen the application process for any of the three programs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: You may contact George C. Hendrickson, Housing Program Specialist, Office of Public and Assisted Housing Delivery, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 4216, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410-8000; telephone (202) 708-1872, ext. 4064. (The number listed above is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY (text telephone) by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 (this is a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 24, 2000 (65 FR 9322), HUD published its Fiscal Year 2000 Super Notice of Funding Availability (FY 2000 SuperNOFA) for HUD's Housing, Community Development, and Empowerment Programs and Section 8 Housing Voucher Assistance. The FY 2000 SuperNOFA included announcements of funding availability under the following three programs: Mainstream Housing Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (Mainstream Housing) (65 FR 9963); Rental Assistance for Non-Elderly Persons with Disabilities Related to Certain Types of Section 8 Project-Based Developments and Section 202, 221(d) and 236 Developments (Certain Developments) (65 FR 9975); and Rental Assistance for Non-Elderly Persons with Disabilities in Support of Designated Housing Plans (Designated Housing) (65 FR-9985).¹

In the funding availability announcements for Certain Developments and Designated Housing, HUD advised that any funds remaining unobligated under these two programs,

¹ A correction of error was also published in the **Federal Register** for the Mainstream Housing Program on June 10, 2000, at 65 FR 37994.

as provided in the funding availability announcements for these two programs, would be used to fund applications from public housing agencies (PHAs) under the Mainstream Housing program (see 65 FR 9977, column three, and 65 FR 9986, column three, respectively).

This Notice

This notice advises that HUD now intends to use a portion of the funds remaining unobligated under Certain Developments and Designated Housing to fund vouchers solely for those non-elderly persons with disabilities who are seeking to move from nursing homes and other institutional settings to housing in their local communities. HUD intends to make available approximately \$2.5 million to fund 400 vouchers for this initiative.

HUD will publish a separate notice in the **Federal Register** to announce this initiative. The **Federal Register** notice to be published will identify the basic policy and design of the initiative, the PHAs selected by HUD to participate in this initiative, and the criteria used to select the PHAs.

Dated: August 2, 2000.

Harold Lucas,

Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

[FR Doc. 00-20253 Filed 8-9-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4572-D-03]

Delegation of Authority, Appraiser Roster Removal, 24 CFR 200.204

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing-FHA Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of the delegation of authority to remove appraisers from the FHA roster pursuant to the HUD regulation at 24 CFR part 200.

SUMMARY: In this notice the Assistant Secretary for Housing delegates to certain HUD officials in the FHA Single Family Homeownership Centers (HOCs) in Philadelphia, PA; Atlanta, GA; Denver, CO and Santa Ana, CA, the power and authority to issue notices of removal from the FHA roster for cause to unsatisfactory appraisers who have been found in violation of the HUD regulations at 24 CFR 200.204(a)(1).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 27, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vance T. Morris, Director, Office of Insured Single Family Housing Program Development, Room 9266, U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-2700 (this is not a toll-free number). This number may be accessed via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 5, 2000, the final rule implementing the FHA appraiser roster removal procedures became effective. The final rule, 24 CFR 200.204, sets forth the reasons for removing an appraiser from the FHA roster, the procedures for removal and reinstatement of the appraiser, and the types of remedies available to the Department against an appraiser found to have violated HUD statutes or regulations. The Assistant Secretary of Housing is hereby delegating the power and authority to issue written notices of proposed removal, and to process any appeals of the notice of proposed removal, including conducting an informal conference if requested by the appraiser, to designated officials in each HOC. This delegation is subject to the limitations in Section B below.

Section A. Delegation of Authority

1. Notices of Proposed Roster Removal: In accordance with 24 CFR 200.204(a)(2)(i), the Director of the Processing and Underwriting Division within each HOC, or a Branch Chief of a Technical Branch within that Division, may issue the written notice of proposed roster removal to the appraiser. This notice will include the reasons for the proposed removal and the duration of the removal.

2. Appeals of Proposed Roster Removals

In accordance with 24 CFR 200.204(a)(2)(ii), appeals of the notice of proposed removal, including conducting an informal conference if so requested by the appraiser, are to be handled by the Director of the HOC, or the HOC Deputy Director. Also, in accordance with 24 CFR 200.204(a)(2)(iii), within 30 days of receiving a written response from an appraiser, or within 30 days of the completion of an informal conference, the Director or Deputy Director of the HOC will review the appraiser's appeal and will issue a final decision either affirming, modifying or canceling an appraiser's removal from the appraiser roster. The time period for responding to an appraiser's appeal may be extended upon notice to the appraiser. The HOC Director or Deputy Director may not be involved in HUD's initial removal decision.

Section B. Limitations on Authority

1. Waiver of HUD Regulations: The authority delegated by this memorandum does not include the authority to waive HUD regulations.
2. Term of Delegation: Unless sooner revoked in writing, by the Assistant Secretary, this delegation shall automatically expire one year from the date of its authorization. Upon expiration, the delegation may be renewed or revised.
3. Re-delegation of Authority: The authority delegated herein may not be re-delegated.

Authority: Single Family Mortgage Insurance; Appraiser Roster Removal Procedures, 24 CFR part 200.

Dated: July 27, 2000.

Gary R. Eisenman,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing.

[FR Doc. 00-20254 Filed 8-9-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-27-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

Endangered Species

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*):

Applicant: Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, New Haven, CT, PRT-031178

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples of the Komodo monitor (*Varanus komodoensis*) taken from specimens in the wild in Indonesia for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through studies of population genetics. This notice covers activities under this permit for a period of five years. Permit subject to annual renewal.

Applicant: Dallas Zoo, Dallas, TX, PRT-031258.

The applicant requests a permit to import blood samples from wild and captive held Ocolet (*Leopardus pardalis*) taken from specimens in Mexico for the purpose of enhancement through scientific research.

Applicant: Daniel J. Will, Platteville, CO, PRT-031295.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus dorcas*) culled from a captive herd