

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Public and Indian Housing

Special Attention of: Notice PIH 2010-43 (HA)

Directors of HUD Regional and Field Offices of Public Housing; Agencies that Administer the Housing Choice Voucher Program

Issued: October 19, 2010

Expires: October 31, 2011

Cross References:

HUD Notices PIH 2006-12, PIH 2006-29, PIH 2006-37, PIH 2007-3, PIH 2007-4, PIH 2007-17, PIH 2008-29, PIH 2008-36, PIH 2009-8,

PIH 2010-1

Subject: Continuation of Disaster Voucher Program (DVP) Housing Assistance Payments

- 1. Purpose: This notice informs DVP administering PHAs that, although the Disaster Voucher Program (DVP) terminates September 30, 2010, HUD will continue to provide transitional monthly housing assistance payments for current DVP families beyond this date. The purpose of continuing housing assistance payments is to allow additional time for HUD and the PHAs to transition eligible families to other housing assistance. This notice also alerts PHAs to changes in the DVP reconciliation requirements previously identified in HUD Notice PIH 2008-29.
- **2. Background:** In HUD Notice PIH 2010-1, the Department extended the DVP end date for all pre-disaster public housing, project-based, homeless, and special needs housing families from December 31, 2009 to September 30, 2010. The notice stated that September 30, 2010, was the final extension of the program.

Over the past nine months, HUD has been working with PHAs to transition eligible DVP families to the HCV program or assist them in finding other housing assistance. Although many families have transitioned to other programs during this time, there are still some DVP families that are waiting for voucher assistance or searching for units that meet HCV program requirements.

In order to avoid undue hardship on these families as a result of the break in assistance, PHAs will continue monthly HAP for all families in accordance with the requirements of this notice.

The Department has projected that there is sufficient DVP funding remaining to continue providing monthly HAP on behalf of current DVP families through June 30, 2011.

3. Continuation of Housing Assistance Payments (HAP): DVP administering PHAs will continue to provide monthly HAP on behalf of current DVP participant families to allow eligible families to transition to other assistance without a disruption in their rental assistance. PHAs will provide HAP through the earlier of June 30, 2011 or until such time that eligible families are admitted into the HCV program (i.e., executed lease and HCV HAP contract) or other housing assistance programs.

In addition, the HAP contract terminates automatically 180 calendar days after the last housing assistance payment to the owner (24 CFR 982.454). The PHA may also terminate assistance in accordance with 24 CFR §§ 982.551- 982.553 and the informal hearing requirements of 24 CFR 982.555.

4. Program Closeout Update: Upon conclusion of the DVP, HUD will reconcile actual cost and leasing information reported in the Voucher Management System (VMS). HUD is using VMS in response to PHA concerns over using the Disaster Information System (DIS) as part of the closeout process due to technical difficulties. Although HUD will use VMS data to reconcile DVP funding with each PHA, HUD may use the DIS on a case-by-case basis to help resolve funding issues. PHAs must update VMS and DIS data in a timely manner. The eligible reimbursement amount for each PHA will be based on the actual DVP HAP reported in VMS.

If the DVP eligible reimbursement amount exceeds the payments received, a final payment will be processed and disbursed to the PHA. If the payments provided by HUD exceed the eligible reimbursement amount, the PHA will remit the overpayment to HUD. Detailed DVP program closeout instructions will be provided at a later date. This reconciliation process supersedes the DVP closeout requirements identified in Section 6 of HUD Notice PIH 2008-29.

5. Disaster Information System (DIS): The "Program End Date" in the DIS will be updated to June 30, 2011. However, the "HAP Contract Termination Date" will not be updated automatically. The DVP PHA must update the "HAP Contract Termination Date" for all families that will continue to receive DVP assistance after September 30, 2010, to reflect the family's actual date of lease/HAP contract termination. Monthly HAP disbursements are based on active lease records in the DIS, so PHAs must ensure that the "HAP Contract Termination Date" is up-to-date in order to ensure accurate disbursements from HUD. PHAs that have assisted their last DVP family on or before September 30, 2010, and will not be disbursing future DVP HAP payments, MUST verify each family's DIS record is updated with the EOP effective date and "HAP Contract Termination Date". Further, PHAs

- must enter newly admitted HCV families into PIC in a timely manner in accordance with HUD Notice PIH 2010-25.
- **6. Information Contact:** Inquiries regarding this notice should be directed to the Housing Voucher Management and Operations Division, Office of Public Housing and Voucher Programs, at (202) 708-0477.
- 7. Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: The information collection requirements contained in this notice have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C 3501-3520), and assigned OMB control number 2577-0169. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

/s/
Sandra B. Henriquez, Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing