

Jobs Plus

Question:

Reporting on outcome data.

- Has a reporting template to HUD been developed for Jobs-Plus implementers?
- If so, on what indicators will PHAs be required to report?

Answer: As described in the Jobs Plus NOFA, grantees will be required to report to HUD on grant progress and activities in two ways. Grantees will be required to submit a quarterly report to HUD identifying specific program outputs and metrics (e.g. the number of individuals enrolled in the program, number of individuals who completed an ITSP, number of households accessing the JPEID, etc.). Grantees will also be required to submit an annual narrative report to HUD that describes program operations over the past year, including elements such as: current set of program partners and the health of the partnership; challenges encountered and strategies deployed to address challenges; and plans for the upcoming year. A standardized format for the quarterly reporting and the annual report is currently being developed by HUD.

Question:

MIS/participation data systems.

- Will researchers be provided direct access to grantee data systems? If so, at what periods and in what form?
- Will implementers use their own systems to record program participation, or is there a single data system that will be used by practitioners across sites?
- If a shared system is required, are data fields currently defined for it? What are these fields?
- Will data be collected on those who are served but not formally on a household's lease?

Answer: PHAs administering the Jobs Plus program will not be required to utilize a specific MIS or platform for capturing and reporting program or participant data to HUD. Reporting requirements for grantees will include continued standard reporting via IMS/PIC, as well as the fulfillment of the program-specific reporting requirements currently under development by HUD. Program outputs and metrics collected and submitted to HUD in the quarterly reports are expected to include data for all program participants, regardless of whether they are formally on the household's lease.

Question:

Cost data

- What costs are grantees currently required to capture, and how does HUD plan to collect that information? Will researchers have access to the financial reports submitted by grantees, and through what process (direct access to the reporting system, through an intermediary, etc.)?
- If a cost/financial-reporting template currently exists, does it incorporate in-kind or contributed costs from partners? Have grantees been given guidance on how to define in-kind costs?

- Will HUD require that consistent budget line item and job titles be used across grantees to facilitate comparison of costs? Will researchers have input into the development of grantee budget structure, financial reporting criteria, and/or the reporting medium?
- What level of fiscal oversight does HUD anticipate performing for this program to ensure reliability of cost data?
- Will PHAs be required to provide researchers access to staff members who can answer questions about costs? For what period of time?
- What sort of access will researchers have to occupancy data?

Answer: The Jobs Plus program grant is cost-reimbursable, so grantees will draw from LOCCS (Line of Credit Control System), which is HUD's primary grant disbursement system, as they incur costs. As described in the Jobs Plus NOFA, to facilitate reimbursements for rent revenue losses due to the Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard (JPEID), grantees will be required to calculate and document a participants' Family Rent both with and without the JPEID and be able to provide these calculations to HUD as a requisite for drawing reimbursement funds. Aside from the JPEID documentation, no additional financial reporting is required. During the application process, each applicant was required to submit a proposed budget using HUD form 50144, which established budget line items for the allocation of the requested amount of grant funding. In addition, applicants were required to demonstrate a firmly committed match, at a minimum of 25% of the requested amount from HUD, to be provided by community partners in carrying out the proposed program. HUD is not anticipating the development of any additional financial reporting criteria, but would be willing to work with the research team to assist with access to additional cost data maintained by the grantees.

The Jobs Plus NOFA states that all grantees will be required to cooperate with both HUD, and HUD's contractors, during the conduct of an independent evaluation. The research team selected to conduct the evaluation will be expected to outreach and build relationships with the grantees, and HUD will partner with the research team to ensure maximum access to HUD-controlled data, including grantee applications and reports and data available through HUD's Inventory Management System/PIH Information Center (IMS/PIC).