

## **HPRP Tips and Updates: New FAQs, Webinar Recordings, and Tools & TA Resources Posted**

**Audience:** Program administrators at the grantee and subgrantee levels.

### **New and Revised FAQs Posted**

HUD has posted 15 new HPRP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Homelessness Resource Exchange (HRE). Most of these are not new policies or policy changes – in many cases, HUD has already communicated these policies to grantees, and some are simply clarifications of policy where HUD has received numerous questions. The intent of these changes is to provide more flexibility to grantees.

To view the full text of these FAQs, go to:

<http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewFaqByTopic&topicid=102#byTpc>. To view only recently added or revised questions, search for HPRP questions with a “Date Posted (or Updated):” between 12/27/10 and the current date.

HUD would like to highlight 2 key policy changes included in the FAQs:

- **Homeless and chronically homeless status of HPRP participants:** Since the start of HPRP, a program participant has always maintained their homeless status while in HPRP; however, initially, if a program participant was *chronically homeless*, they did not maintain that status once in HPRP housing. HUD has received a lot of feedback on this policy. In response, HUD has now changed the policy to allow persons who are chronically homeless upon entry into HPRP to maintain that status upon exit—this allows them to retain eligibility for Supportive Housing Program and Shelter Plus Care permanent housing projects that serve exclusively chronically homeless persons. In this way, HPRP can be used as a “bridge” to stable housing, even for chronically homeless persons. The FAQ has been revised to reflect this policy change.
- **Lease requirements for legal services:** Also in response to feedback, HUD has determined that for eligible program participants receiving **only** legal services to remain in their housing, a written lease is not required—but other written evidence of a valid pre-existing tenancy must be in the case files.

Other recent policy determinations in the FAQs:

- SF-425 (Federal Financial Report) – not applicable to HPRP
- Retaining electronic vs. hard copy records
- Using “Fee for Service” as an alternative to charging indirect costs
- Eligibility of pet deposits: FAQ revised to allow fees for service animals

Clarifications in the FAQs:

- Use of HPRP and HUD-VASH assistance together (related to retaining homeless or chronically homeless status while in HPRP)

- Expenditure deadlines and recapture of HPRP funds: impact of recent amendments to ARRA by the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010
- Grantees recapturing and reallocating funds between subgrantees or to a new subgrantee
- Changes that trigger substantial amendments for HPRP: clarification that the public comment period for substantial amendments is not abbreviated as it was under the original substantial amendment submission for HPRP
- Use of legal services for rapid re-housing vs. homelessness prevention assistance
- What to do with security deposits recovered after the end of the HPRP grant period
- Limitations of security deposit assistance
- Assistance to applicants living in cooperative housing developments: clarification that it is generally not allowed
- Charitable donation and the “cost type” rule: clarification that the “cost type” rule does not cover one-time charitable assistance
- Occupancy standards under HPRP
- Impact of “high overcrowding” on unit habitability
- ARRA requirement to display “whistleblower” poster

### **Webinar Slides and Recordings Posted**

Additionally, the slides and recordings of the most recent HPRP webinars are now available on the HPRP HUD-Issued Guidance page of the HRE

(<http://www.hudhre.info/hprp/index.cfm?do=viewHPRPIssuances#6>). Please encourage all relevant staff working on HPRP to view the recordings. Each one is approximately 1.5 hours in length. Available recordings include the following:

- **HPRP Annual Performance Report (APR)** (October 2010)
- **HPRP Strategies for Achieving Performance and Spending Goals** (December 2010)
- **HPRP APR Generation and Aggregation Tools** (December 2010)

### **New Tools & TA Resources Posted**

Finally, a number of Tools & TA Resources were recently posted to the HRE (see

<http://www.hudhre.info/hprp/index.cfm?do=viewHPRPTools>):

- **HPRP Financial Management: Strategies for Accelerating Expenditure Rates**
- **HPRP Eligibility Documentation and Case Scenarios** – this is a suite of tools that include a Worksheet of scenarios, the answers in a separate document, and an Instructor’s Guide.