

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

**Office of Housing
Office of Public and Indian Housing**

Special Attention of:

Public Housing Agencies
Public Housing Hub Office Directors
Public Housing Program Center Directors
Multifamily Regional Center Directors
Multifamily Regional Satellite Office Directors
Regional and Field Office Directors
Regional Administrators
Performance Based Contract Administrators

Notice H-2019-09 PIH-2019-23 (HA)

Issued: 09/05/2019

Supersedes: Notice PIH-2012-32 (HA) H-2017-03, REV-3 and Notice PIH 2018-11 (HA) H 2018-05 and Notice PIH 2018-22 H 2018-11

Expires: This Notice remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded.

SUBJECT: Rental Assistance Demonstration – Final Implementation, Revision 4

Purpose

This revised notice (Notice) provides program instructions for the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD or Demonstration), including eligibility and selection criteria.

Background

RAD is authorized by the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2012 ([Pub. L. No. 112-55](#), approved November 18, 2011), as amended by the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014](#) (Pub. L. No. 113-76, approved January 17, 2014), the [Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015](#) (Pub. L. No. 113-235, approved December 16, 2014), the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016](#) (Pub. L. No. 114-113, approved December 18, 2015), the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017](#) (Pub. L. No 115-31, approved May 5, 2017), and section 237 of Title II, Division L, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, of the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018](#) (Pub. L. 115-141, approved March 23, 2018) collectively, the “RAD Statute.” RAD has two separate components:

- **First Component.** The First Component allows projects funded under the public housing program to convert their assistance to long-term, project-based Section 8 rental assistance contracts. Under this component of RAD, public housing agencies (PHAs) may choose

- of an MTW agency to administer the PBV contract, the MTW agency may use the authority as detailed in Section 1.6.B.5.b. to augment rents of the property under contract;
- b. Transfer the RAD PBV or PBRA assistance for the converting project outside of their jurisdiction to a project and owner (including another PHA or its affiliate or instrumentality) that satisfies the ownership and control requirements described in Section 1.4.A.11 and all other RAD transfer of assistance requirements under 1.4.A.12;
 - c. Provide development guarantees using non-federal funds;
 - d. Serve as Developer;
 - e. Serve as Management Agent; and/or
 - f. Undertake a voluntary transfer or consolidation of HCV programs (i.e. transferring budget authority and corresponding baseline units for the HCV program in accordance with Notice PIH 2015-22).

As an example, PHA A could seek to convert Property A in partnership with PHA B. PHA B could provide Capital Funds as a source of funds for the conversion and, in exchange, PHA A could agree to have PHA B serve as the PBV administering voucher agency for the Covered Project, even though PHA A might have a voucher program.

M. Section 33 Required Conversion Review.²⁹ While Section 33 of the Act would require that a PHA annually review its inventory to identify projects that should undergo the Required Conversion process, PHAs will not be required to assess projects that have been issued a CHAP or are covered by a Portfolio Award because HUD considers the RAD conversion process to fulfill the requirements of Section 33 of the Act. Accordingly, HUD is waiving 24 CFR part 972, subpart A for projects covered by a CHAP or a Portfolio Award.

1.6 Special Provisions Affecting Conversions to PBVs

Under the Demonstration, HUD has the authority to waive statutory and regulatory provisions governing the PBV program, or to establish alternative requirements for the effective conversion of assistance. Additionally, the RAD Statute imposes certain unique requirements and authorizes HUD to establish requirements for converted assistance under the Demonstration.

Listed below are the “special” requirements applicable to public housing projects converting assistance to long-term PBV assistance under the First Component of the Demonstration, with reference to the affected statute and/or regulation, where applicable. Special requirements are grouped into four categories: Project Selection, Contract Terms, Resident Rights and

²⁹ Section 33 of the Act requires PHAs to identify projects that must be removed from the stock of public housing.

Participation, and Other Miscellaneous Provisions. All other regulatory and statutory requirements of the PBV program in 24 CFR part 983 and section 8(o)(13) of the Act apply, including environmental review, lead-based paint requirements, Davis-Bacon, and fair housing requirements.

MTW agencies will be able to apply activities impacting the PBV program that are approved in their MTW Plans or included in the MTW Supplement to an approved PHA plan to these properties as long as they do not conflict with RAD requirements. RAD requirements include RAD statutory requirements, provisions of the PBV program specifically addressed in this Notice (including provisions explicitly listed in Section 1.6 of this Notice as provisions of the PBV program that MTW agencies may not alter for properties converting under RAD), other conditions and requirements of this Notice, or RAD contract forms or riders. With respect to any existing PBV regulations that are waived or modified in this Section 1.6 pursuant to RAD authority, except where explicitly noted below, MTW agencies may modify these or other requirements of the PBV program if the activity is approved in its MTW Plan or included in the MTW Supplement to an approved PHA plan. All other RAD Requirements listed below or elsewhere in this Notice shall apply to MTW agencies.

So as to facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the Covered Project shall be subject to the same waivers and alternative requirements where noted below.

Finally, the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA) and HUD's implementation notices³⁰ ("HOTMA Implementation Notice") modified the PBV program in ways that partially or completely obviate the need for certain prior waivers or alternative requirements adopted in RAD. These are noted below.

A. PBV Project Selection.

- 1. PBV Percentage Limitation.** Covered Projects do not count against the percentage limitation applicable to the PBV program. The HOTMA Implementation Notice excludes formerly assisted properties from the percentage limitation. For any Covered Projects not otherwise covered under the HOTMA Implementation Notice, including transfers of assistance to a new location, HUD is waiving section 8(o)(13)(B) of the Act as well as 24 CFR § 983.6 with respect to Covered Projects. As a result, a PHA that is administering RAD PBV assistance does not take the RAD PBV into consideration when calculating the percent limitation for any non-RAD PBV actions that are subject to the percent limitation. In other words, RAD PBV is excluded from

³⁰ See "January 18, 2017 HOTMA implementation notice, 82 Fed. Reg. 5458," and the "July 14, 2017 technical correction and clarification notice, 82 Fed. Reg. 32461." Also see Notice PIH 2017-21.

both the numerator and the denominator when calculating the percent of vouchers that may be project-based for non-RAD PBV.

2. **Cap on the Number of PBV Units in Each Project.** There is no cap on the number of units that may receive RAD PBV assistance in each project. Under the HOTMA Implementation Notice, certain formerly assisted properties are excepted from the project cap. For any Covered Projects not covered under the HOTMA Implementation Notice, including transfers of assistance to a new location, HUD is waiving section 8(o)(13)(D) of the Act, as well as related provisions of 24 CFR §§ 983.56, 983.257(b), 983.262(a) and (d). Accordingly, units under the contract may not be “excepted” for a specified purpose.
3. **Owner Proposal Selection Procedures.** In addition to situations already covered under the HOTMA Implementation Notice (e.g., attaching PBV assistance to PHA-owned units that were formerly assisted under the public housing program), HUD is waiving 24 CFR § 983.51 so that a RAD PBV HAP contract is never subject to competitive selection requirements. With respect to site selection standards, HUD requires compliance with the site selection standards as set forth in this Notice.
4. **Site selection – Compliance with PBV Goals, section 8(o)(13)(C)(ii) of the Act and 24 CFR § 983.57(b)(1) and (c)(2).** HUD waives these provisions having to do with deconcentration of poverty and expanding housing and economic opportunity, for the existing site. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

B. PBV Contract Terms.

1. **Length of Contract.** Covered Projects shall have an initial HAP Contract term of at least 15 years (up to 20 years upon request of the Project Owner and with approval by the administering Voucher Agency). To implement this provision, HUD is specifying alternative requirements for section 8(o)(13)(F) of the Act (which permits a minimum term of one year) as well as 24 CFR § 983.205(a) (which governs contract term). Project Owners are required to make available for occupancy by eligible tenants the number of assisted units under the terms of the contract and may not reduce the number of assisted units without written HUD approval. Any HUD approval of a PHA’s request post-conversion to reduce the number of assisted units under the contract is subject to conditions that HUD may impose. MTW agencies may not alter this requirement.
2. **Mandatory Contract Renewal.** In accordance with the RAD Statute, at or prior to

the expiration of the initial contract and each renewal contract, the administering Voucher Agency must offer, and the Project Owner must accept, renewal of the contract subject to the terms and conditions applicable at the time of renewal and the availability of appropriations each year for such renewal. The renewal contract(s) shall be for the prescribed number and mix of units but may, upon request of the Project Owner and subject to HUD and Contract Administrator approval, be on one or more transfer of assistance sites in lieu of the project site subject to the expiring contract. Consequently, section 8(o)(13)(G) of the Act, as well as 24 CFR § 983.205(b), governing the PHA discretion to renew the contract, will not apply to the extent that these provisions make renewal or extension decisions purely discretionary. However, Contract Administrators and Project Owners may choose to extend the initial HAP Contract term consistent with these provisions and are encouraged to do so a minimum of one year prior to the expiration of the contract so as to avoid unnecessary notice to residents per 24 CFR 983.206. The ability to extend the HAP Contract term consistent with these provisions does not negate, in any way, the mandatory renewal provision detailed in the first sentence of this paragraph. MTW agencies may not alter this requirement.

3. **Ownership or Control.** This section has been moved to Section [1.4.A.11](#)
4. **RAD Use Agreement.** This section has been moved to Section [1.4.A.13](#)
5. **Initial Contract Rent Setting.** No additional or incremental funding is associated with this Demonstration. HUD has calculated initial contract rents for every public housing project based on each project's subsidy under the public housing program. All RAD applications, including applications for Portfolio Awards, will have initial contract rents based on their "RAD rent base year" described in [Attachment 1C](#). PHAs have additional discretion in establishing initial contract rents using the following flexibilities:
 - a. **MTW Fungibility.** MTW agencies may use their MTW funds to set the initial contract rents higher than the normally applicable contract rent cap that is based on the project's public housing subsidy. However, the initial contract rent set by the PHA is still subject to all other applicable program caps. The agency must use existing MTW funds to supplement the initial contract rents; HUD will only provide new incremental voucher funding for the first full calendar year following conversion using per unit costs (PUCs) based on normally applicable public housing subsidy initial rent caps. Any use of MTW funds in setting higher initial contract rents shall be subject to subsidy layering review and MTW continued service

requirements, as calculated using the MTW Baseline Methodology described in Notice PIH 2013-02, or successor notice.

- b. Rent Bundling.** Subject to HUD approval, PHAs may adjust subsidy (and initial contract rents) across multiple projects as long as the PHA does not exceed the aggregate subsidy for all of the projects the PHA has submitted for conversion under RAD. For example, assume that a PHA is considering bundling two identical projects, both consisting of 100 units. In Project A, the contract rent is \$500; and in Project B, the contract rent is \$600. The PHA could bundle the two projects such that the initial contract rents for both projects will be \$550. This use, which HUD refers to as “bundled” rents, can occur under the following scenarios:
- i. When a PHA is converting two or more properties within its public housing portfolio. The execution and effective date of the HAP Contract for the donor HAP Contract must occur prior to or simultaneous with the effective date of the recipient HAP Contract;
 - ii. When PHAs have formed a Partnership in accordance with Section 1.5.M and are bundling rents between two or more converting projects. The execution and effective date of the HAP Contract for the donor HAP Contract must occur prior to or simultaneous with the effective date of the recipient HAP Contract; and
 - iii. When a PHA bundles rents between a converting project and non-RAD Project-Based Vouchers. In such a case, the PHA must use its own voucher funding to supplement the higher RAD rent that is being offset by the lower PBV rent for the non-RAD PBV project or projects; no additional voucher funding will be provided through RAD. HUD will review the rents proposed for the non-RAD PBV HAP Contract to ensure that the PHA does not exceed the aggregate subsidy otherwise available for all of the rent-bundled projects. Except as provided in section 1.6.B.d below, the execution and effective date of the HAP Contract for the donor project must occur prior to or simultaneous with the effective date of the recipient HAP Contract. The owner of the property with the non-RAD PBV HAP Contract must request an initial rent (or redetermined rent if the contract has already been executed) in accordance with 24 CFR §§ 983.301(b)(3) and 983.302 that reflects the amount approved by HUD. To ensure that aggregate HAP costs do not exceed the costs incurred absent

this provision, the owner of the property with the non-RAD PBV HAP Contract must agree not to request, in accordance with 24 CFR § 983.301(b)(3), a redetermined rent that exceeds the OCAF-adjusted rent. This OCAF limitation is in addition to the existing PBV rent limitations in 24 CFR § 983.301(b) more generally. The donor HAP Contract must have a remaining contract term at least as long as the recipient HAP Contract.

- iv. Where an Agreement to enter into a HAP Contract (AHAP) is used on the non-RAD PBV HAP Contract and the RAD and non-RAD PBV projects are subject to a single financing, the execution and effective date of the AHAP for the donor HAP Contract must occur prior to or simultaneous with the conversion of the recipient HAP Contract. The recipient RAD PBV HAP Contract will include rent schedules for both unadjusted rents and the anticipated rent bundled rents. The unadjusted rents are the initial effective rents for the RAD PBV recipient project. At the completion of rehab/construction of the donor project, where the terms of the AHAP have been satisfied and the PHA and owner of the donor property are ready to execute a HAP contract, the cost-neutral application of the bundled rents will occur. 1) the HAP for the non-RAD PBV HAP Contract will be determined based on the initial rent, which is the PBV rent the project would have been eligible for under the PBV initial rent requirements at 24 CFR § 983.301 reduced by the amount that has been bundled to the RAD HAP Contract. 2) Upon the effective date of the non-RAD PBV donor HAP Contract, the HUD-approved rent bundled rents at the RAD HAP Contract will become effective. For example, assume two 100 unit properties that will be redeveloped under a single financing transaction, one developed under standard PBV through an AHAP and another through RAD. The estimated rents for the standard PBV are \$1,000 while the standard RAD rents are \$500. The PHA plans to rent bundle to increase the RAD rents to \$750. Construction will occur on the same timeline and the RAD PBV HAP Contract will close at the same time as the AHAP is executed. The RAD PBV HAP Contract will include unadjusted, pre-construction rents (\$500) as well as adjusted, post-construction rents (\$750). The AHAP will include estimated PBV rents, adjusted downward by \$250. When construction is completed, the post-construction rents on the RAD HAP Contract will take effect when the donor non-

RAD PBV HAP Contract becomes effective. The PHA will determine the initial contract rents for the non-RAD PBV donor project in accordance with PBV requirements and deduct \$250 from that amount.

Please note that per Section 1.13.B.5, regardless of the initial contract rents for the RAD HAP Contract, including as modified by this provision, in the year of conversion the Covered Project will only be assisted by the Operating and Capital Funds obligated to the PHA for that project.

- c. Future Replacement Housing Factor (RHF) or Demolition Disposition Transition Funding (DDTF).**³¹ PHAs that are scheduled to receive ongoing RHF or DDTF funding (funds that have not been awarded and, with HUD permission, funds that have been awarded but not yet disbursed) may choose to forgo any ongoing RHF or DDTF grants for the purpose of offsetting an increase to the RAD rent. See [Attachment 1C](#) for the calculation of how RHF or DDTF funding may offset increased RAD rent.
- d. PBV Site-Specific Utility Allowances.** PHAs may elect to establish a site-specific Utility Allowance for any Covered Project. HUD is waiving 24 CFR 983.2(c)(6)(iii), which requires the PHA to apply the HCV Utility Allowance schedule for PBV properties, and HUD is establishing an alternative requirement. The Utility Allowance shall be calculated consistent with Notice H 2015-04 unless PIH promulgates guidance specific to the PBV program. The Project Owner may carry out all of the responsibilities associated with Notice H 2015-04, but the PHA must ensure that the Utility Allowance is calculated correctly. This waiver and alternative requirement shall also apply to non-RAD PBV units located at the Covered Project.
- e. Tenant-Paid Utility Savings.** Where a Covered Project will use a site-specific utility allowance as described in sub-paragraph iv. and the conversion will result in the reduction of one or more utility components (e.g., gas, water & sewer, electric) used to establish the Utility Allowance relative to the utility allowance of the Converting Project (i.e., the public

housing project), HUD will permit the RAD contract rent to be increased by a portion of the utility savings. See [Attachment 1C](#) for additional detail.

Notwithstanding HUD's calculation of the initial contract rent based on the project's subsidy under the public housing program and any modifications to the initial contract rent permitted under this Notice, initial PBV contract rents are subject to the statutory and regulatory PBV requirements governing contract rents (see 24 CFR § 983.301), (except where alternative rent caps have been approved in a MTW Plan or included in an MTW Supplement to the PHA Plan). To this effect, initial contract rents cannot exceed the lower of: (a) the reasonable rent (as defined under 24 CFR § 983.303); (b) an amount determined by the PHA, not to exceed 110 percent of the applicable FMR (or applicable exception payment standard, or rent cap approved in an MTW Plan or included in an MTW Supplement to the PHA Plan), minus any utility allowance; or (c) the rent requested by the owner.

6. **Method of Adjusting Contract Rents.** Contract rents will be adjusted only by HUD's OCAF (which is applied only to the portion of the rent not attributable to debt service) at each anniversary of the HAP Contract, subject to the availability of appropriations for each year of the contract term.³² As such, section 8(o)(13)(I) of the Act and 24 CFR §§ 983.301 and 983.302, concerning rent determinations, shall not apply when adjusting rents. The rent to owner may at no time exceed the reasonable rent charged for comparable unassisted units in the private market, as determined by the Contract Administrator in accordance with 24 CFR § 983.303.³³ However, the rent to owner shall not be reduced below the initial rent to owner for dwelling units under the initial HAP Contract.³⁴ MTW agencies may not alter this requirement.
7. **Role of Independent Entity.** Where the Covered Project is PHA-owned in accordance with section 8(o)(11) of the Act as amended by HOTMA (see Attachment A in Notice PIH 2017-21 for guidance on PHA-owned units), in addition to the standard roles described in 24 CFR 983.59(b) (i.e., determining reasonable rents and

³² OCAFs are calculated and published each year by HUD in the Federal Register in order to calculate the contract rent for the project in the following fiscal year.

³³ If the Covered Project is deemed to be PHA-owned pursuant to HUD guidance, an independent entity will need to perform the rent-setting and inspection functions set out in 24 CFR § 983.59.

³⁴ The rent to owner may fall below the initial contract rent: 1) to correct errors in calculations in accordance with HUD requirements; 2) if additional housing assistance has been combined with PBV assistance after the execution of the initial HAP Contract and a rent decrease is required pursuant to § 983.55 (Prohibition of excess public assistance); or 3) if a decrease in rent to owner is required based on changes in the allocation of responsibility for utilities between the owner and the tenant.

conducting HQS inspection) the independent entity must also determine the OCAF adjustment.

- 8. Transfer of Assistance.** This section has been moved to [Section 1.4.A.12.](#)
- 9. Agreement Waiver and RAD Rehab Assistance Payments.** For public housing conversions to PBV there will be no Agreement to Enter into a Housing Assistance Payments (AHAP) contract. Therefore, all regulatory references to the AHAP, including regulations under 24 CFR part 983 subpart D are waived. Instead, the PHA and Project Owner typically will enter into a HAP Contract before construction begins. During the period of Work identified in the RCC, standard HAP Contract funding procedures will be used for occupied units. Units covered under the HAP Contract that are not occupied at any point during the period of Work identified in the RCC may be eligible, subject to the conditions below, for Rehab Assistance Payments equal to the Public Housing Operating Fund and the Capital Fund amounts that formed the basis for the calculation of initial contract rents (see [Attachment 1C](#)). During the period of rehabilitation or construction as identified in the RCC, the maximum number of units for which a Project Owner can receive RAD Rehab Assistance Payments is limited to the number of units eligible for Operating Fund or Capital Fund subsidy prior to conversion. As a result, some units in the Covered Project may not be eligible for Rehab Assistance Payments.

The Project Owner will no longer be eligible to receive RAD Rehab Assistance Payments upon the earlier of completion of the Work or expiration of the time period identified in the RCC for completion of all Work, which date is specified in the HAP contract. After such date, all units under the HAP Contract will be eligible for payment only for occupied units or for vacancy payments, as applicable. MTW agencies may not alter this requirement.

- 10. HQS Inspections.** Under current regulations at 24 CFR § 983.103(b) a unit covered under a HAP Contract must be inspected and must meet HQS before assistance can be paid on behalf of a household, unless the PHA is using HOTMA non-life threatening and alternative inspection provisions.³⁵ In addition, section 8(o)(8)(A) of the Act provides that HAP Contract units must be inspected to ensure compliance with HQS prior to payment of any assistance on behalf of a family. When Work is occurring under RAD, HUD requires that all units meet HQS no later than the date of completion of the Work as indicated in the RCC. Consequently, HUD is waiving and establishing an alternative requirement to 24 CFR § 983.103(b) and section 8(o)(8)(A) of the Act in such cases.

³⁵ See Notice PIH-2017-20 for guidance on HOTMA non-life threatening and alternative inspection provisions.

11. Floating Units. Upon the request of the owner to the Voucher Agency that will administer the Covered Project, HUD will permit PBV assistance to float among units within the project having the same bedroom size. A unit to which assistance is floated must be comparable in condition to the unit it is replacing (i.e., the unit must be of the same quality and amenities as the unit it is replacing). Assistance may float from a required UFAS accessible unit only to another UFAS accessible unit that has the same bedroom size and accessibility features. If assistance floats to a UFAS accessible unit as a reasonable accommodation for a household that had not previously been in a UFAS unit, the assistance may float back to a non-UFAS unit when there is no longer need for the reasonable accommodation provided the required number of UFAS units is maintained. Units that float are not specifically designated under the HAP Contract. Therefore, the requirements in 24 CFR § 983.203(c) that the HAP Contract provide “the location of each contract unit” and “the area of each contract unit” are waived. Instead, the HAP Contract must specify the number and type of units in the property that are designated as RAD units, including any excepted units. From the time of the initial execution of the PBV RAD HAP Contract, the property must maintain the same number and type of UFAS accessible units. Floating units are subject to all of the requirements in this Notice and the PBV regulations, including physical inspections, rent adjustments, and income-mixing requirements. The alternative requirements with respect to floating units do not apply to non-RAD PBV units.

C. PBV Resident Rights and Participation.

1. No Rescreening of Tenants upon Conversion. Pursuant to the RAD Statute, at conversion, current households cannot be excluded from occupancy at the Covered Project based on any rescreening, income eligibility, or income targeting. With respect to occupancy in the Covered Project, current households in the Converting Project will be grandfathered for application of any eligibility criteria to conditions that occurred prior to conversion but will be subject to any ongoing eligibility requirements for actions that occur after conversion.³⁶ Post-conversion, the tenure of all residents of the Covered Project is protected pursuant to PBV requirements regarding continued occupancy unless explicitly modified in this Notice (e.g., rent phase-in provisions). For example, a unit with a household that was over-income at time of conversion would continue to be treated as an assisted unit. Thus, Section 8(o)(4) of the 1937 Act and 24 CFR § 982.201, concerning eligibility and targeting of

³⁶ These protections (as well as all protections in this Notice for current households) also apply when a household is relocated to facilitate new construction or repairs following conversion and subsequently returns to the Covered Project.

tenants for initial occupancy, will not apply for current households. Once the grandfathered household moves out, the unit must be leased to an eligible family. MTW agencies may not alter this requirement. Further, so as to facilitate the right to return to the assisted property, HUD waives Section 8(o)(4) and 24 CFR § 982.201 to the extent necessary for this provision to apply to current public housing residents of the Converting Project that will reside in non-RAD PBV units or non-RAD PBRA units placed in a project that contain RAD PBV units or RAD PBRA units. Such families and such contract units will otherwise be subject to all requirements of the applicable program, specifically 24 CFR Part 983 for non-RAD PBV units and the PBRA requirements governing the applicable contract for non-RAD PBRA units.

2. **Right to Return.** See Section 1.4.A.5.b. and the RAD Fair Housing, Civil Rights, and Relocation Notice regarding a resident's right to return. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.
3. **Phase-in of Tenant Rent Increases.** If, purely as a result of conversion, the amount a tenant would pay for rent and utilities under the PBV program (the tenant's TTP) would increase the tenant's TTP by more than the greater of 10 percent or \$25, the rent increase will be phased in over 3 or 5 years. To implement this provision, HUD is specifying alternative requirements for section 3(a)(1) of the Act, as well as 24 CFR § 983.3 (definition of "total tenant payment" (TTP)) to the extent necessary to allow for the phase-in of tenant rent increases. A PHA must create a policy setting the length of the phase-in period at three years, five years or a combination depending on circumstances and must communicate such policy in writing to affected residents. For example, a PHA may create a policy that uses a three year phase-in for smaller increases in rent and a five year phase-in for larger increases in rent. This policy must be in place at conversion and may not be modified after conversion.

The method described below explains the set percentage-based phase-in a Project Owner must follow according to the phase-in period established. For purposes of this section "Calculated PBV TTP" refers to the TTP calculated in accordance with regulations at 24 CFR §5.628 and the "most recently paid TTP" refers to the TTP recorded on line 9j of the family's most recent HUD Form 50058. If a family in a project converting from Public Housing to PBV was paying a flat rent immediately prior to conversion, the PHA should use the flat rent amount to calculate the phase-in amount for Year 1 (the first recertification following conversion), as illustrated below.

Three Year Phase-in:

- Year 1: Any recertification (interim or annual) performed prior to the second annual recertification after conversion – 33% of difference between most recently paid TTP or flat rent and the Calculated PBV TTP
- Year 2: Year 2 Annual Recertification (AR) and any Interim Recertification (IR) prior to Year 3 AR – 50% of difference between most recently paid TTP and the Calculated PBV TTP
- Year 3: Year 3 AR and all subsequent recertifications – Full Calculated PBV TTP³⁷

Five Year Phase in:

- Year 1: Any recertification (interim or annual) performed prior to the second annual recertification after conversion – 20% of difference between most recently paid TTP or flat rent and the Calculated PBV TTP
- Year 2: Year 2 AR and any IR prior to Year 3 AR – 25% of difference between most recently paid TTP and the Calculated PBV TTP
- Year 3: Year 3 AR and any IR prior to Year 4 AR – 33% of difference between most recently paid TTP and the Calculated PBV TTP
- Year 4: Year 4 AR and any IR prior to Year 5 AR – 50% of difference between most recently paid TTP and the Calculated PBV TTP
- Year 5 AR and all subsequent recertifications – Full Calculated PBV TTP

Please Note: In either the three year phase-in or the five-year phase-in, once the Calculated PBV TTP is equal to or less than the previous TTP, the phase-in ends and tenants will pay full TTP from that point forward. MTW agencies must also implement a three or five-year phase-in for impacted residents, but may alter the terms above as long as it establishes a written policy setting forth the alternative terms. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

4. Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) and Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency Service Coordinator (ROSS-SC) programs. Public Housing residents that are currently FSS participants will continue to participate in the PHA's FSS program.

³⁷ For example, where a resident's most recently paid TTP is \$100, but the Calculated PBV TTP is \$200 and remains \$200 for the period of the resident's occupancy, (i.e. no changes in income) the resident would continue to pay the same rent and utilities for which it was responsible prior to conversion. At the first recertification following conversion, the resident's contribution would increase by 33% of \$100 to \$133. At the second AR, the resident's contribution would increase by 50% of the \$66 differential to the standard TPP, increasing to \$166. At the third AR, the resident's contribution would increase to \$200 and the resident would continue to pay the Calculated PBV TTP for the duration of their tenancy.

The PHA may continue to use any FSS funds already awarded to serve those FSS participants who live in units converted by RAD. At the completion of the FSS grant, PHAs should follow the normal closeout procedures outlined in the grant agreement. If the PHA continues to run an FSS program that serves PH and/or HCV participants, the PHA will continue to be eligible (subject to NOFA requirements) to apply for FSS funding. Due to the program merger between PH FSS and HCV FSS that took place pursuant to the FY14 Appropriations Act (and was continued in the subsequent Appropriation Acts), no special provisions are required to continue serving FSS participants that live in public housing units converting to PBV under RAD.

However, PHAs should note that until provisions of the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act are implemented, there are certain FSS requirements (e.g., escrow calculation and escrow forfeitures) that apply differently depending on whether the FSS participant is a participant under the HCV program or a public housing resident, and PHAs must follow such requirements accordingly. All PHAs will be required to administer the FSS program in accordance with FSS regulations at 24 CFR part 984 (current, or as amended), the participants' contracts of participation, and the alternative requirements established in the "Waivers and Alternative Requirements for the FSS Program" Federal Register notice, published on December 29, 2014, at 79 FR 78100.³⁸ Further, upon conversion to PBV, if the PHA no longer has a public housing program, funds already escrowed for FSS participants shall be transferred into the HCV escrow account and be considered TBRA funds, thus reverting to the HAP account if forfeited by the FSS participant.³⁹

For information on FSS PIC reporting requirements for RAD conversions, see Notice PIH 2016-08 at <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=pih2016-08.pdf>.

Current ROSS-SC grantees will be able to finish out their current ROSS-SC grants once their housing is converted under RAD. However, once the property is converted, it will no longer be eligible to be counted towards the unit count for future ROSS-SC grants, nor will its residents be eligible to be served by future ROSS-SC grants,

³⁸ The funding streams for the PH FSS Program and the HCV FSS Program were first merged pursuant to the FY 2014 appropriations act. As a result, PHAs can serve both PH residents and HCV participants, including PBV participants, with FSS funding awarded under the FY 2014 FSS Notice of Funding Availability (FSS NOFA) and any other NOFA under which the combination of funds remains in the applicable appropriations act. For PHAs that had managed both programs separately and now have a merged program, a conversion to PBV should not impact their FSS participants.

³⁹ Where the PHA maintains a public housing program, any forfeited funds that had been escrowed prior to conversion would revert to the PHA's Operating Reserves.

which, by statute, can only serve public housing residents. At the completion of the ROSS-SC grant, PHAs should follow the normal closeout procedures outlined in the grant agreement. Please note that ROSS-SC grantees may be a non-profit or local Resident Association and this consequence of a RAD conversion may impact those entities. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

5. **Resident Participation and Funding.** In accordance with Attachment 1B, residents of Covered Projects with assistance converted to PBV will have the right to establish and operate a resident organization for the purpose of addressing issues related to their living environment and be eligible for resident participation funding. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.
6. **Resident Procedural Rights.** The following items must be incorporated into both the Section 8 Administrative Plan and the Project Owner's lease, which includes the required tenancy addendum (HUD Form 52530-c), as appropriate. Evidence of such incorporation may be requested by HUD for purposes of monitoring the program.
 - a. **Termination Notification.** HUD is incorporating additional termination notification requirements to comply with section 6 of the Act for public housing projects that convert assistance under RAD and to non-RAD PBV units located at the Covered Project. In addition to the regulations at 24 CFR § 983.257 related to Project Owner termination of tenancy and eviction (which MTW agencies may not alter), the termination procedure for RAD conversions to PBV will require that PHAs provide adequate written notice of termination of the lease which shall be :
 - i. A reasonable period of time, but not to exceed 30 days:
 1. If the health or safety of other tenants, Project Owner employees, or persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises is threatened; or
 2. In the event of any drug-related or violent criminal activity or any felony conviction;
 - ii. Not less than 14 days in the case of nonpayment of rent; and
 - iii. Not less than 30 days in any other case, except that if a State or local law provides for a shorter period of time, such shorter period shall apply.

- b. **Grievance Process.** Pursuant to requirements in the RAD Statute, HUD is establishing additional resident procedural rights to comply with section 6 of the Act.

For the termination of assistance and several other PHA determinations, PBV program rules require the PHA to provide an opportunity for an informal hearing, as outlined in 24 CFR § 982.555. RAD will specify alternative requirements for 24 CFR § 982.555(b) in part, which outlines when informal hearings are not required, to require that:

- i. In addition to reasons that require an opportunity for an informal hearing given in 24 CFR § 982.555(a)(1)(i)-(v),⁴⁰ an opportunity for an informal hearing must be given to residents for any dispute that a resident may have with respect to a Project Owner action in accordance with the individual's lease or the contract administrator in accordance with RAD PBV requirements that adversely affect the resident's rights, obligations, welfare, or status.
 1. For any hearing required under 24 CFR § 982.555(a)(1)(i)-(v), the contract administrator will perform the hearing, as is the current standard in the program. The hearing officer must be selected in accordance with 24 CFR § 982.555(e)(4)(i).
 2. For any additional hearings required under RAD, the Project Owner will perform the hearing.
- ii. There is no right to an informal hearing for class grievances or to disputes between residents not involving the Project Owner or Contract Administrator.
- iii. The Project Owner gives residents notice of their ability to request an informal hearing as outlined in 24 CFR § 982.555(c)(1) for informal hearings that will address circumstances that fall outside of the scope of 24 CFR § 982.555(a)(1)(i)-(vi).
- iv. The Project Owner provides opportunity for an informal hearing before an eviction.

Current PBV program rules require that hearing procedures must be outlined in the PHA's Section 8 Administrative Plan.

⁴⁰ § 982.555(a)(1)(iv) is not relevant to RAD as the tenant-based certificate program has been repealed.

To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

- 7. Earned Income Disregard (EID).** Tenants who are employed and are currently receiving the EID exclusion at the time of conversion will continue to receive the EID after conversion, in accordance with regulations at 24 CFR § 5.617. Upon the expiration of the EID for such families, the rent adjustment shall not be subject to rent phase-in, as described in Section 1.6.C.4; instead, the rent will automatically rise to the appropriate rent level based upon tenant income at that time.

Under the Housing Choice Voucher program, the EID exclusion is limited only to persons with disabilities (24 CFR § 5.617(b)). In order to allow all tenants (including non-disabled persons) who are employed and currently receiving the EID at the time of conversion to continue to benefit from this exclusion in the PBV project, the provision in 24 CFR § 5.617(b) limiting EID to disabled persons is waived. The waiver, and resulting alternative requirement, apply only to tenants receiving the EID at the time of conversion. No other tenant (e.g., tenants that move into the property following conversion or tenants who at one time received the EID but are not receiving the EID exclusion at the time of conversion due to loss of employment) is covered by this waiver. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

- 8. Jobs Plus.** Jobs Plus grantees awarded FY14 and future funds that convert the Jobs Plus target projects(s) under RAD will be able to finish out their Jobs Plus period of performance unless significant relocation and/or change in building occupancy is planned. If either is planned at the Jobs Plus target project(s), HUD may allow for a modification of the Jobs Plus work plan or may, at the Secretary's discretion, choose to end the Jobs Plus program at that project. If the program is continued, the Project Owner must agree to continue to implement the program according to HUD's program requirements. Jobs Plus target public housing projects must enroll public housing residents into the Jobs Plus rent incentive, JPEID, prior to conversion. Any resident of the Covered Project that had not enrolled prior to conversion is not eligible to enroll in JPEID but may utilize Jobs Plus services that predominantly benefit the former public housing residents who resided at the target project at the time of RAD conversion. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the Covered Project may voluntarily utilize Jobs Plus services that predominantly benefit the former public housing residents who resided at the target project at the time of RAD conversion.

9. When Total Tenant Payment Exceeds Gross Rent. Under normal PBV rules, the PHA may select an occupied unit to be included under the PBV HAP Contract only if the unit's occupants are eligible for housing assistance payments (24 CFR § 983.53(c)). Also, a PHA must remove a unit from the contract when no assistance has been paid for 180 days because the family's TTP has risen to a level that is equal to or greater than the contract rent, plus any utility allowance, for the unit (i.e., the Gross Rent) (24 CFR § 983.258). Since the rent limitation under this Section of the Notice may result in a family's TTP equaling or exceeding the gross rent for the unit, for residents living in the Converting Project prior to conversion and who will return to the Covered Project after conversion, HUD is waiving both of these provisions and requiring that the unit for such families be placed on and/or remain under the HAP Contract when TTP equals or exceeds the Gross Rent. Further, HUD is establishing the alternative requirement that until such time that the family's TTP falls below the gross rent, the rent to the owner for the unit will equal the lesser of (a) the family's TTP, less the Utility Allowance, or (b) any applicable maximum rent under LIHTC regulations. During any period when the family's TTP falls below the gross rent, normal PBV rules shall apply. As necessary to implement this alternative provision, HUD is waiving the provisions of Section 8(o)(13)(H) of the Act and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR § 983.301 as modified by Section 1.6.B.5 of this Notice.⁴¹ In such cases, the resident is considered a participant under the program and all of the family obligations and protections under RAD and PBV apply to the resident. Likewise, all requirements with respect to the unit, such as compliance with the HQS requirements, apply as long as the unit is under HAP Contract. The PHA is required to process these individuals through the Form 50058 submodule in PIC. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

Unless a waiver is requested and approved as described below, any new admission to the Covered Project must meet the eligibility requirements at 982.201 and require a subsidy payment at admission to the program, which means their TTP may not equal or exceed the gross rent for the unit at that time. Further, a PHA must remove a unit from the contract when no assistance has been paid for 180 days. If units are removed from the HAP contract because a new admission's TTP comes to equal or exceed the gross rent for the unit and if the project is fully assisted, HUD is imposing an

⁴¹ For example, a public housing family residing in a property converting under RAD has a TTP of \$600. The property has an initial Contract Rent of \$500, with a \$50 Utility Allowance. Following conversion, the residents is still responsible for paying \$600 in tenant rent and utilities.

alternative requirement that the PHA must reinstate the unit after the family has left the property. If the project is partially assisted, the PHA may substitute a different unit for the unit on the HAP contract in accordance with 24 CFR §983.207 or, where “floating units have been permitted, Section 1.6.B.10 of the Notice.

A PHA may request a waiver from HUD for the Covered Project in order to admit otherwise eligible families whose TTP exceeds gross rent and to allow the units those families occupy to remain under the HAP contract even if the PHA has not made a housing assistance payment for a family in 180 days.

For a Covered Project that consists of 100 percent RAD PBV units, the PHA must demonstrate that a waiver is necessary in order to avoid an undue concentration of poverty at the Covered Project. A PHA may evidence this by providing data showing, for example:

- how eligible income-certified applicants on the waiting list must be passed over because their incomes result in zero HAP at admission causing a higher concentration of poverty at the covered project; or
- how the income of newly admitted families is causing a markedly higher concentration of poverty than the PHA’s non-RAD PBV projects.

The resulting impact on the property must be compared with the concentration of poverty at non-RAD PBV projects in the PHA’s jurisdiction. If there are no non-RAD PBV projects in the PHA’s jurisdiction, the PHA may alternatively demonstrate that the median income of families that could be admitted to the Covered Project is significantly lower than the median income of new admissions from the waiting list to the PHA’s HCV program since the time of the RAD conversion.

For any other Covered Project, the PHA must demonstrate that the property contains specific units (e.g., units suitable for large families or accessible units) for which there are insufficient alternative housing opportunities.

If the waiver is approved, the new admission[s] families covered under the waiver are participants under the program and all of the family obligations and protections under RAD and PBV apply to the family, and the unit is subject to all program requirements. Such waiver requests should be submitted to the PIH Field Office in accordance with Notice PIH 2018-16.

10. Under-Occupied Unit. If a family is in an under-occupied unit under 24 CFR § 983.260 at the time of conversion, the family may remain in this unit until an appropriate-sized unit becomes available in the Covered Project. When an appropriate

sized unit becomes available in the Covered Project, the family living in the under-occupied unit must move to the appropriate-sized unit within a reasonable period of time, as determined by the administering Voucher Agency. In order to allow the family to remain in the under-occupied unit until an appropriate-sized unit becomes available in the Covered Project, 24 CFR § 983.260 is waived for current residents remaining or returning to the Covered Project. MTW agencies may not modify this requirement. To facilitate the uniform treatment of residents and units at a Covered Project, any non-RAD PBV units located in the same Covered Project shall be subject to the terms of this provision.

D. PBV: Other Miscellaneous Provisions

1. **Access to Records, Including Requests for Information Related to Evaluation of Demonstration.** PHAs and the Project Owner must cooperate with any reasonable HUD request for data to support program evaluation, including but not limited to project financial statements, operating data, Choice-Mobility utilization, and rehabilitation work. Please see Appendix IV for reporting units in Form HUD-50058.
2. **Ongoing PHA Board Review of Operating Budget.** The Owner must submit to the administering PHA's Board the operating budget for the Covered Project annually. The PHA's Board must confirm that the Project Owner is making deposits into the Reserve for Replacement account in accordance with the RCC as well as assess the financial health of the Covered Project.⁴²
3. **Davis-Bacon Act and Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (Section 3).** These sections have been moved to [1.4.A.13 and 1.4.A.14](#).
4. **Establishment of Waiting List.** 24 CFR § 983.251 sets out PBV program requirements related to establishing and maintaining a voucher-wide, PBV program-wide, or site-based waiting list from which residents for the Covered Project will be admitted. These provisions shall apply unless the project is covered by a remedial order or agreement that specifies the type of waiting list and other waiting list policies. The PHA shall consider the best means to transition applicants from the current public housing waiting list, including:
 - a. Transferring an existing site-based waiting list to a new site-based waiting list.

⁴² For PBV conversions that are not FHA-insured, a future HUD notice will describe project financial data that may be required to be submitted by a PBV owner for purposes of monitoring and evaluation, given that PBV projects do not submit annual financial statements to HUD/REAC.