

24 CFR Part 891

Aged, Capital advance programs, Civil rights, Grant programs—housing and community development, Individuals with disabilities, Loan programs—housing and community development, Low- and moderate-income housing, Mental health programs, Rent subsidies, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

24 CFR Part 965

Energy conservation, Government procurement, Grant programs—housing and community development, Lead poisoning, Loan programs—housing and community development, Public housing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Utilities.

24 CFR Part 983

Grant programs—housing and community development, Rent subsidies, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated in the preamble, title 24 of the CFR is amended as follows:

PART 5—GENERAL HUD PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS; WAIVERS

1. The authority citation for 24 CFR part 5 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 3535(d), unless otherwise noted.

2. A new subpart G is added to part 5 to read as follows:

Subpart G—Physical Condition Standards and Inspection Requirements

Sec.

5.701 Applicability.

5.703 Physical condition standards for HUD housing that is decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair (DSS/GR).

5.705 Uniform physical inspection requirements.

Subpart G—Physical Condition Standards and Inspection Requirements**§ 5.701 Applicability.**

(a) This subpart applies to housing assisted by HUD under the following programs:

(1) All Section 8 project-based assistance. “Project-based assistance” means Section 8 assistance that is attached to the structure (see § 982.1(b)(1) of this title regarding the distinction between “project-based” and “tenant-based” assistance);

(2) Section 202 Program of Supportive Housing for the Elderly;

(3) Section 811 Program of Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities;

(4) Section 202 loan program for projects for the elderly and handicapped

(including 202/8 projects and 202/162 projects).

(b) This subpart also applies to housing with mortgages insured or held by HUD, or housing that is receiving assistance from HUD, under the following authorities:

(1) Section 207 of the National Housing Act (NHA) (12 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (Rental Housing Insurance);

(2) Section 213 of the NHA (Cooperative Housing Insurance);

(3) Section 220 of the NHA (Rehabilitation and Neighborhood Conservation Housing Insurance);

(4) Section 221(d)(3) and (5) of the NHA (Housing for Moderate Income and Displaced Families);

(5) Section 221(d)(4) of the NHA (Housing for Moderate Income and Displaced Families);

(6) Section 231 of the NHA (Housing for Elderly Persons);

(7) Section 232 of the NHA (Mortgage Insurance for Nursing Homes, Intermediate Care Facilities, Board and Care Homes);

(8) Section 234(d) of the NHA (Rental) (Mortgage Insurance for Condominiums);

(9) Section 236 of the NHA (Rental and Cooperative Housing for Lower Income Families);

(10) Section 241 of the NHA (Supplemental Loans for Multifamily Projects); and

(11) Section 542(c) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1707 note) (Housing Finance Agency Risk Sharing Program).

(c) This subpart also applies to Public Housing (housing receiving assistance under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, other than under section 8 of the Act).

(d) For purposes of this subpart, the term “HUD housing” means the types of housing listed in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section.

§ 5.703 Physical condition standards for HUD housing that is decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair (DSS/GR).

HUD housing must be decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair. Owners of housing described in § 5.701(a), mortgagors of housing described in § 5.701(b), and PHAs and other entities approved by HUD owning housing described in § 5.701(c), must maintain such housing in a manner that meets the physical condition standards set forth in this section in order to be considered decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair. These standards address the major areas of the HUD housing: the site; the building exterior; the building systems; the dwelling units; the common areas; and health and safety considerations.

(a) *Site.* The site components, such as fencing and retaining walls, grounds,

lighting, mailboxes/project signs, parking lots/driveways, play areas and equipment, refuse disposal, roads, storm drainage and walkways must be free of health and safety hazards and be in good repair. The site must not be subject to material adverse conditions, such as abandoned vehicles, dangerous walks or steps, poor drainage, septic tank back-ups, sewer hazards, excess accumulations of trash, vermin or rodent infestation or fire hazards.

(b) *Building exterior.* Each building on the site must be structurally sound, secure, habitable, and in good repair. Each building's doors, fire escapes, foundations, lighting, roofs, walls, and windows, where applicable, must be free of health and safety hazards, operable, and in good repair.

(c) *Building systems.* Each building's domestic water, electrical system, elevators, emergency power, fire protection, HVAC, and sanitary system must be free of health and safety hazards, functionally adequate, operable, and in good repair.

(d) *Dwelling units.* (1) Each dwelling unit within a building must be structurally sound, habitable, and in good repair. All areas and aspects of the dwelling unit (for example, the unit's bathroom, call-for-aid (if applicable), ceiling, doors, electrical systems, floors, hot water heater, HVAC (where individual units are provided), kitchen, lighting, outlets/switches, patio/porch/balcony, smoke detectors, stairs, walls, and windows) must be free of health and safety hazards, functionally adequate, operable, and in good repair. (2) Where applicable, the dwelling unit must have hot and cold running water, including an adequate source of potable water (note for example that single room occupancy units need not contain water facilities).

(3) If the dwelling unit includes its own sanitary facility, it must be in proper operating condition, usable in privacy, and adequate for personal hygiene and the disposal of human waste.

(4) The dwelling unit must include at least one battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detector, in proper working condition, on each level of the unit.

(e) *Common areas.* The common areas must be structurally sound, secure, and functionally adequate for the purposes intended. The basement/garage/carport, restrooms, closets, utility, mechanical, community rooms, day care, halls/corridors, stairs, kitchens, laundry rooms, office, porch, patio, balcony, and trash collection areas, if applicable, must be free of health and safety hazards, operable, and in good repair. All common area ceilings, doors, floors,

HVAC, lighting, outlets/switches, smoke detectors, stairs, walls, and windows, to the extent applicable, must be free of health and safety hazards, operable, and in good repair. These standards for common areas apply, to a varying extent, to all HUD housing, but will be particularly relevant to congregate housing, independent group homes/residences, and single room occupancy units, in which the individual dwelling units (sleeping areas) do not contain kitchen and/or bathroom facilities.

(f) *Health and safety concerns.* All areas and components of the housing must be free of health and safety hazards. These areas include, but are not limited to, air quality, electrical hazards, elevators, emergency/fire exits, flammable materials, garbage and debris, handrail hazards, infestation, and lead-based paint. For example, the buildings must have fire exits that are not blocked and have hand rails that are undamaged and have no other observable deficiencies. The housing must have no evidence of infestation by rats, mice, or other vermin, or of garbage and debris. The housing must have no evidence of electrical hazards, natural hazards, or fire hazards. The dwelling units and common areas must have proper ventilation and be free of mold, odor (e.g., propane, natural gas, methane gas), or other observable deficiencies. The housing must comply with all requirements related to the evaluation and reduction of lead-based paint hazards and have available proper certifications of such (see 24 CFR part 35).

(g) *Compliance with State and local codes.* The physical condition standards in this section do not supersede or preempt State and local codes for building and maintenance with which HUD housing must comply. HUD housing must continue to adhere to these codes.

§ 5.705 Uniform physical inspection requirements.

(a) Any entity responsible for conducting a physical inspection of HUD housing, to determine compliance with this subpart, must inspect such HUD housing annually (unless otherwise specifically notified by HUD), in accordance with HUD-prescribed physical inspection procedures. For Public Housing, PHAs have the option to inspect Public Housing units using the procedures prescribed in accordance with this section.

(b) Inspections in accordance with the physical inspection procedures identified in paragraph (a) of this section shall not be required until HUD has issued the inspection software and

accompanying guidebook. When the software and guidebook have been issued, HUD will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** to inform the public when the software and guidebook are available. The notice will provide 30 days within which covered entities must prepare to conduct inspections in accordance with this subpart. Until the date that is 30 days after HUD publishes such notice, any entity responsible for conducting a physical inspection of HUD housing, to determine compliance with this subpart, must continue to comply with inspection requirements in effect immediately prior to that date.

PART 207—MULTIFAMILY HOUSING MORTGAGE INSURANCE

3. The authority citation for 24 CFR part 207 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1701z–11(e), 1713, and 1715b; 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

4. A new § 207.260 is added, immediately after § 207.259a, to read as follows:

§ 207.260 Maintenance and inspection of property.

As long as the mortgage is insured or held by the Commissioner, the mortgagor must maintain the insured project in accordance with the physical condition requirements in 24 CFR part 5, subpart G; and the mortgagee must inspect the project in accordance with the physical inspection requirements in 24 CFR part 5, subpart G.

PART 266—HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY RISK-SHARING PROGRAM FOR INSURED AFFORDABLE MULTIFAMILY PROJECT LOANS

5. The authority citation for 24 CFR part 266 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1707; 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

§ 266.505 [Amended]

6. Section 266.505 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (b)(6).

7. A new § 266.507 is added, to read as follows:

§ 266.507 Maintenance requirements.

The mortgagor must maintain the project in accordance with the physical condition standards in 24 CFR part 5, subpart G.

8. In § 266.510, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 266.510 HFA responsibilities.

(a) *Inspections.* The HFA must perform inspections in accordance with

the physical inspection procedures in 24 CFR part 5, subpart G.

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PART 880—SECTION 8 HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

9. The authority citation for 24 CFR part 880 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1437a, 1437c, 1437f, 3535(d), 12701, and 13611–13619.

10. Section 880.201 is amended by revising the definition of “*Decent, safe and sanitary*”, to read as follows:

§ 880.201 Definitions.

* * * * *

Decent, safe, and sanitary. Housing is decent, safe, and sanitary if it meets the physical condition requirements in 24 CFR part 5, subpart G.

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§ 880.207 [Amended]

11. Section 880.207 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (a).

PART 881—SECTION 8 HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANTIAL REHABILITATION

12. The authority citation for 24 CFR part 881 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1437a, 1437c, 1437f, 3535(d), 12701, and 13611–13619.

13. Section 881.201 is amended by revising the definition of “*Decent, safe and sanitary*”, to read as follows:

§ 881.201 Definitions.

* * * * *

Decent, safe, and sanitary. Housing is decent, safe, and sanitary if it meets the physical condition requirements in 24 CFR part 5, subpart G.

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§ 881.207 [Amended]

14. Section 881.207 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (a).

PART 882—SECTION 8 MODERATE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

15. The authority citation for 24 CFR part 882 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1437f and 3535(d).

16. In § 882.102, paragraph (b) is amended by revising the definition of “*Decent, safe, and sanitary*”; and by removing the definition of “*Housing quality standards (HQS)*”; to read as follows:

§ 882.102 Definitions.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

Decent, safe, and sanitary. Housing is decent, safe, and sanitary if it meets the