

## GLOSSARY

### I. TERMS USED IN DETERMINING RENT

#### ANNUAL INCOME (24 CFR 5.609)

Annual income is the anticipated total income from all sources. This includes net income derived from assets, received by the family head and spouse (even if temporarily absent) and by each additional family member for the 12 month period following the effective date of initial determination or reexamination of income. It does not include income that is temporary, non-recurring, or sporadic as defined in this section, or income that is specifically excluded by other federal statute. Annual income includes:

The full amount before any payroll deductions, of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions fees, tips and bonuses, and other compensation for personal services.

The net income from operation of a business or profession, including any withdrawal of cash or assets from the operation of the business. Expenditures for business expansion or amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining the net income from a business. An allowance for the straight line depreciation of assets used in a business or profession may be deducted as provided in IRS regulations. Withdrawals of cash or assets will not be considered income when used to reimburse the family for cash or assets invested in the business.

Interest, dividends, and other net income of any kind from real or personal property. Expenditures for amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for the straight line depreciation of real or personal property is permitted. Withdrawals of cash or assets will not be considered income when used to reimburse the family for cash or assets invested in the property.

When the family has net family assets in excess of \$5,000, Annual Income shall include the greater of the actual income derived from all net family assets, or a percentage of the value of such assets based on the current passbook savings rate as determined by HUD.

The full amount of periodic payments received from Social Security, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, pensions, disability or death benefits, and other similar types of periodic receipts.

*NOTE: Treatment of lump sum payments for delayed or deferred periodic payment of social security or SSI benefits is dealt with later in this section.*

Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment and disability compensation, workers' compensation, and severance pay.

All welfare assistance payments received by or on behalf of any family member. (24 CFR 913.106(b)(6) contains rules applicable to "as-paid" States).

Periodic and determinable allowances, such as alimony and child care support payments, and regular cash contributions or gifts received from persons not residing in the dwelling.

All regular pay, special pay and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces (except special pay to a family member serving the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire).

## **EXCLUSIONS FROM ANNUAL INCOME (24 CFR 5.609)**

Annual income does not include the following:

Income from the employment of children (including foster children) under the age of 18 years;

Payments received for the care of foster children or foster adults (usually individuals with disabilities, unrelated to the resident family, who are unable to live alone);

Lump sum additions to family assets, such as inheritances, insurance payments (including payments under health, and accident insurance and workers' compensation) capital gains, and settlement for personal property losses;

Amounts received by the family that are specifically for, or in reimbursement of the cost of medical expenses for any family member.

Income of a live-in aide, provided the person meets the definition of a live-in aide.

The full amount of student financial assistance paid directly to the student or the educational institution.

The special pay to a family member serving in the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire.

Amounts received under HUD funded training programs (e.g. Step-up program); excludes stipends, wages, transportation payments and child care vouchers for the duration of the training.

Amounts received by a person with disabilities that are disregarded for a limited time for purposes of Supplemental Security Income and benefits that are set aside for use under a Plan to Attain Self Sufficiency (PASS).

Amounts received by a participant in other publicly assisted programs that are specifically for, or in reimbursement of, out of pocket expenses incurred for items such as special equipment, clothing, transportation and childcare, to allow participation in a specific program.

Amount received as a Resident services stipend. A modest amount (not to exceed \$200 per month) received by a public housing resident for performing a service for the PHA, on a part-time basis, that enhances the quality of life in public housing. Such services may include but are not limited to, fire patrol, hall monitoring, lawn maintenance, resident initiatives coordination, and serving as the resident member of the PHA governing Board. No resident may receive more than one such stipend during the same period of time.

Incremental earnings and benefits resulting to any family member from participation in qualifying State or local employment training programs (including training programs not affiliated with a local government) and training of family members as resident management staff. Amounts excluded by this provision must be received under employment training programs with clearly defined goals and objectives, and are excluded only for the period during which the family member participates in the employment training program.

Temporary, non-recurring, or sporadic income (including gifts).

Reparation payments paid by foreign governments pursuant to claims filed under the laws of that government by persons who were persecuted during the Nazi era. (For all initial determinations and reexaminations of income on or after April 23, 1993.)

Earnings in excess of \$480 for each full-time student 18 years old or older, (excluding the head of household and spouse).

Adoption assistance payments in excess of \$480 per adopted child.

The earnings and benefits to any resident resulting from the participation in a program providing employment training and supportive services in accordance with the Family Support Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), or any comparable Federal, State or local law during the exclusion period. For purposes of this paragraph the following definitions apply:

Comparable Federal, State or local law means a program providing employment training and supportive services that: (1) is authorized by a Federal, State or local law; (2) is funded by the Federal, State or local government; (3) is operated or administered by a public agency; and (4) has as its objective to assist participants in acquiring job skills.

Exclusion period means the period during which the resident participates in a program as described in this section plus 18 months from the date the resident begins the first job acquired by the resident after completion of such program that is not funded by public housing assistance under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937. If the resident is terminated from employment without good cause, the exclusion period shall end.

Earnings and benefits means the incremental earnings and benefits resulting from a qualifying employment training program or subsequent job.

Deferred periodic payments from supplemental security income and social security benefits that are received in a lump sum amount or in prospective monthly amounts.

Amounts received by the family in the form of refunds or rebates under state or local law for property taxes paid on the dwelling unit.

Amounts paid by a State agency to a family with a developmentally disabled family member living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the

developmentally disabled family member at home.

Amounts specifically excluded by any other Federal Statute from consideration as income for purposes of determining eligibility or benefits under a category of assistance programs that includes assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937.(A notice will be published by HUD in the Federal Register identifying the benefits that qualify for this exclusion.

The following benefits are excluded by other Federal Statute as of August 3, 1933:

The value of the allotment provided to an eligible household for coupons under the Food Stamp Act of 1977;

Payments to volunteers under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973; examples of programs under this Act include but are not limited to:

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)

Senior Companion Program (SCP)

Older American Committee Service Program

National Volunteer Antipoverty Programs such as:

VISTA

Peace Corps

Service Learning Program

Special Volunteer Programs

Small Business Administration Programs such as:

National Volunteer Program to Assist Small Businesses

Service Corps of Retired Executives

Payments received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. [43 USC 1626 (a)]

Income derived from certain submarginal land of the United States that is held in trust for certain Indian tribes. [25 USC 459e]

Payments or allowances made under the Department of HHS' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. [42 USC 8624 (f)]

Payments received under programs funded in whole or in part under the Job Training Partnership Act (29 USC 1552 (b))

Income derived from the disposition of funds of the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians (Pub. L. 94-540).

The first \$2,000 of per capita shares received from judgment funds awarded by the Indian Claims Commission or the Court of Claims (25 USC. 1407-08), or from funds held in trust for an Indian Tribe by the Secretary of Interior.

Amounts of scholarships funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 including awards under the Federal work-study program or under the Bureau of Indian Affairs student assistance programs. [20 USC 1087 uu] Examples: Basic Educational Opportunity Grants (Pell Grants), Supplemental Opportunity Grants, State Student Incentive Grants, College-Work Study, and Byrd Scholarships.

Payments received under programs funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 [42 USC 3056 (f)] Examples include Senior Community Services Employment Program, National Caucus Center on the Black Aged, National Urban League; Association National Pro Personas Mayores, National Council on Aging, American Association of Retired Persons, National Council on Senior Citizens, and Green Thumb.

Payments received after January 1, 1989 from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund or any other fund established in the In-Re Orange Product Liability litigation.

The value of any child care provided or arranged (or any amount received as payment for such care or reimbursement for costs of incurred in such care) under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990. (42 USC 9858q)

Earned income tax credit refund payments received on or after January 1, 1991. (26 USC 32 )(j).

Living allowances under Americorps Program (Nelson Diaz Memo to George Latimer 11/15/94)

## ADJUSTED INCOME

Annual income, less allowable HUD deductions.

*Note: Under the Continuing Resolution, PHAs are permitted to adopt other adjustments to earned income for residents of Public Housing, but must absorb any resulting loss in rental income.*

All Families are eligible for the following:

Child Care Expenses: A deduction of amounts anticipated to be paid by the family for the care of children under 13 years of age for the period for which the Annual Income is computed. Child care expenses are only allowable when such care is necessary to enable a family member to be gainfully employed or to further his/her education. Amounts deducted must be unreimbursed expenses and shall not exceed: (1) The amount of income earned by the family member released to work, or (2) an amount determined to be reasonable by the PHA when the expense is incurred to permit education.

Dependent Deduction. An exemption of \$480 for each member of the family residing in the household (other than the head or spouse, live-in aide, foster child) who is under eighteen years of age or who is eighteen years of age or older and disabled, handicapped, or a full-time student.

Handicapped Expenses. A deduction of unreimbursed amounts paid for attendant care or auxiliary apparatus expenses for handicapped family members where such expenses are necessary to permit a family member(s), including the handicapped/disabled member to be employed. In no event may the amount of the deduction exceed the employment income earned by the family member(s) freed to work.

Equipment and auxiliary apparatus may include but are not limited to: wheelchairs, lifts, reading devices for visually handicapped, and equipment added to cars and vans to permit use by the handicapped or disabled family member.

For non-elderly families and elderly families without medical expense: The amount of the deduction equals the cost of all unreimbursed expenses for handicapped care and equipment less three percent of Annual Income, provided the amount so calculated does not exceed the employment income earned.

For elderly families with medical expenses: The amount of the deduction equals the cost of all unreimbursed expenses for handicapped care and equipment less three percent of Annual Income, (provided the amount does not exceed earnings) plus medical expenses as defined below.

For Elderly and Disabled Families Only:

Medical Expenses: A deduction of unreimbursed medical expenses, including insurance premiums anticipated for the period for which Annual Income is computed. Medical expenses include, but are not limited to: services of physicians and other health care professionals, services of health care facilities; insurance

premiums, including the cost of Medicare), prescription and non-prescription medicines, transportation to and from treatment, dental expenses, eyeglasses, hearing aids and batteries, attendant care (unrelated to employment of family members), and payments on accumulated medical bills. To be considered by the PHA for the purpose of determining a deduction from the income, the expenses claimed must be verifiable.

For elderly families without handicapped expenses: The amount of the deduction shall equal total medical expenses less 3% of annual income.

For elderly families with both handicapped and medical expenses: The amount of handicapped assistance is calculated first, then medical expenses are added.

Elderly/Disabled Household Exemption: An exemption of \$400 per household.

## **II. GLOSSARY OF HOUSING TERMS**

**ACCESSIBLE DWELLING UNITS.** When used with respect to the design, construction or alteration of an individual dwelling unit, means that the unit is located on an accessible route, and when designed, constructed, or altered, can be approached, entered, and used by individuals with physical handicaps. A unit that is on an accessible route and is adaptable and otherwise in compliance with the standards set forth in 24 CFR 8.32 & 40, (the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards) is "accessible" within the meaning of this paragraph.

**ACCESSIBLE FACILITY.** All or any portion of a facility other than an individual dwelling unit used by individuals with physical handicaps.

**ACCESSIBLE ROUTE.** For persons with a mobility impairment, a continuous, unobstructed path that complies with space and reach requirements of the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAC). For persons with hearing or vision impairments, the route need not comply with requirements specific to mobility.

**ADAPTABILITY.** Ability to change certain elements in a dwelling unit to accommodate the needs of handicapped and non-handicapped persons; or ability to meet the needs of persons with different types and degrees of disability.

**ADMISSION.** Admission to the program is the effective date of the lease. The point at which a family becomes a resident.

**ALLOCATION PLAN.** The plan submitted by the PHA and approved by HUD under which the PHA is permitted to designate a building, or portion of a building, for occupancy by Elderly Families or Disabled Families.

**ANNUAL INCOME AFTER ALLOWANCES.** The Annual Income (described above) less the HUD-approved allowances.

**APPLICANT** (or applicant family). A family that has applied for admission to a program, but is not yet a participant in the program.

**"AS-PAID" STATES.** States where the welfare agency adjusts the shelter and utility

component of the welfare grant in accordance with actual housing costs.

**ASSETS.** (See Net Family Assets.)

**AUXILIARY AIDS.** Services or devices that enable persons with impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills to have an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of programs and activities.

**CEILING RENT.** An amount that reflects the reasonable market value of the housing unit, but not less than the sum of the monthly per-unit operating costs and a deposit to a replacement reserve. The family pays the lower of the ceiling rent or the formula tenant rent.

**CO-HEAD.** An individual in the household who is equally responsible for the lease with the Head of Household. A family may have a Co-head or Spouse, but not both. A co-head never qualifies as a dependent.

**COVERED FAMILIES.** The statutory term "covered families" designates the universe of families who are required to participate in a welfare agency economic self-sufficiency program and may, therefore, be the subject of a welfare benefit sanction for noncompliance with this obligation. "Covered families" means families who receive welfare assistance or other public assistance benefits from a State or other public agency under a program for which Federal, State, or local law requires that a member of the family must participate in an economic self-sufficiency program as a condition for the assistance.

**DEPENDENT.** A member of the family household (excluding foster children) other than the family head or spouse, who is under 18 years of age or is a Disabled Person or Handicapped Person, or is a full-time student 18 years of age or older.

**DESIGNATED FAMILY.** The category of family for whom the PHA elects to designate a project (e.g. elderly family in a project designated for elderly families) in accordance with the 1992 housing Act. (24 CFR 945.105)

**DISABILITY ASSISTANCE EXPENSE.** Reasonable expenses that are anticipated, during the period for which annual income is computed, for attendant care and or auxiliary apparatus for a disabled family member and that are necessary to enable a family member (including the disabled member) to be employed, provided that the expenses are neither paid to a member of the family nor reimbursed by an outside source.

**DISABLED FAMILY.** A family whose head, spouse, or sole member is a person with disabilities. A disabled family may include two or more persons with disabilities living together, or one or more persons with disabilities living with one or more live-in aides

**DISABLED PERSON.** See **Person with Disabilities.**

**DISABLED FAMILY.** A family whose head, spouse, or sole member is a person with disabilities; or two or more persons with disabilities living together or one or more persons with disabilities living with one or more live-in aides.

**DISALLOWANCE.** Exclusion from annual income.

**DISPLACED FAMILY.** A family in which each member, or whose sole member, is a person displaced by governmental action, or a person whose dwelling has been extensively damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster declared or otherwise formally recognized pursuant to Federal Disaster relief laws.



**DOMICILE.** The legal residence of the household head or spouse as determined in accordance with State and local law.

**DRUG-RELATED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.** Term means:

Drug-trafficking; or

Illegal use, or possession for personal use of a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)).

**DRUG TRAFFICKING.** The illegal manufacture, sale, distribution or the possession with intent to manufacture, sell, or distribute a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)).

**ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM.** Any program designed to encourage, assist, train, or facilitate the economic independence of assisted families or to provide work for such families. Economic self-sufficiency programs can include job training, employment counseling, work placement, basic skills training, education, English proficiency, Workfare, financial or household management, apprenticeship, any other program necessary to ready a participant to work (such as: substance abuse or mental health treatment. Economic self-sufficiency program includes any work activities as defined in the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607(d)). See the definition of work activities at Sec. 5.603(c). The new definition of the term "economic self-sufficiency program" is used in the following regulatory provisions, pursuant to the Public Housing Reform Act: family income includes welfare benefits reduced because of family failure to comply with welfare agency requirements to participate in an economic self-sufficiency program; and the requirement for public housing residents to participate in an economic self-sufficiency program or other eligible activities.

**ELDERLY FAMILY.** A family whose head or spouse or whose sole member is at least 62 years, or two or more persons who are at least 62 years of age or a disabled person. It may include two or more elderly, disabled persons living together or one or more such persons living with one or more live-in aides.

**ELDERLY PERSON.** A person who is at least 62 years old.

**ELIGIBLE FAMILY (Family).** A family is defined by the PHA in the Admission and Continued Occupancy Plan.

**EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL OR OTHER EXPENSES.** Prior to the regulation change in 1982, this meant medical and/or unusual expenses as defined in Part 889 which exceeded 25% of the Annual Income. It is no longer used.

**EXCESS MEDICAL EXPENSES.** Any medical expenses incurred by elderly families only in excess of 3% of Annual Income which are not reimbursable from any other source.

**EXTREMELY LOW-INCOME FAMILY.** A family whose annual income does not exceed 30 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that HUD may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the median income for the area if HUD finds that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

**FAMILY.** The applicant must qualify as a family as defined by the PHA.

**FAMILY OF VETERAN OR SERVICEPERSON.** A family is a "family of veteran or serviceperson" when:

The veteran or serviceperson (a) is either the head of household or is related to the head of the household; or (b) is deceased and was related to the head of the household, and was a family member at the time of death.

The veteran or serviceperson, unless deceased, is living with the family or is only temporarily absent unless s/he was (a) formerly the head of the household and is permanently absent because of hospitalization, separation, or desertion, or is divorced; provided, the family contains one or more persons for whose support s/he is legally responsible and the spouse has not remarried; or (b) not the head of the household but is permanently hospitalized; provided, that s/he was a family member at the time of hospitalization and there remain in the family at least two related persons.

**FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM (FSS PROGRAM).** The program established by a PHA to promote self-sufficiency of assisted families, including the provision of supportive services.

**FLAT RENT.** Rent for a public housing dwelling unit that is based on the market rent. The market rent is the rent charged for comparable units in the private, unassisted rental market at which the PHA could lease the public housing unit after preparation for occupancy.

**FOSTER CHILD CARE PAYMENT.** Payment to eligible households by state, local, or private agencies appointed by the State, to administer payments for the care of foster children.

**FULL-TIME STUDENT.** A person who is attending school or vocational training on a full-time basis.

**HANDICAPPED ASSISTANCE EXPENSES.** Anticipated costs for care attendants and auxiliary apparatus for handicapped or disabled family members which enable a family member (including the handicapped family member) to work.

**HANDICAPPED PERSON.** [Referred to as a Person with a Disability]. A person having a physical or mental impairment which is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration; substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; and is of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.

**HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.** The person who assumes legal and financial responsibility for the household and is listed on the application as head.

**HOUSING AGENCY.** A state, country, municipality or other governmental entity or public body authorized to administer the program. The term "PHA" includes an Indian housing authority (IHA). ("PHA" and "PHA" mean the same thing.)

**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974.** The Act in which the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 was recodified, and which added the Section 8 Programs.

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN.** A Housing Assistance Plan submitted by a local government participating in the Community Development Block Program as part of the block grant application, in accordance with the requirements of 570.303(c) submitted by a local government not participating in the Community Development Block Grant Program and approved by HUD. A Housing Assistance Plan meeting the requirements of 570.303(c) submitted by a local government not participating in the Community Development Block Grant Program and approved by HUD.

**HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS (HQS).** The HUD minimum quality standards for housing assisted under the Public Housing and Section 8 programs.

**HUD.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development or its designee.

**HUD REQUIREMENTS.** HUD requirements for the Section 8 programs. HUD requirements are issued by HUD headquarters as regulations. Federal Register notices or other binding program directives.

**HURRA.** The Housing and Urban/Rural Recovery Act of 1983 legislation that resulted in most of the 1984 HUD Regulation changes to the definition of income, allowances, and rent calculations.

**IMPUTED ASSET.** Asset disposed of for less than Fair Market Value during two years preceding examination or reexamination.

**IMPUTED INCOME.** HUD passbook rate times the total cash value of assets, when assets exceed \$5,000.

**IMPUTED WELFARE INCOME.** The amount of annual income not actually received by a family, as a result of a specified welfare benefit reduction, that is nonetheless included in the family's annual income. This amount is included in family annual income and, therefore, reflected in the family rental contribution based on this income.

**INCOME.** Income from all sources of each member of the household as determined in accordance with criteria established by HUD.

**INCOME-BASED RENT.** The tenant rent paid to the PHA that is based on family income and the PHA rental policies. The PHA uses a percentage of family income or some other reasonable system to set income-based rents. The PHA has broad flexibility in deciding how to set income-based rent for its tenants. However, the income-based tenant rent plus the PHA's allowance for tenant paid utilities may not exceed the "total tenant payment" as determined by a statutory formula.

**INCOME FOR ELIGIBILITY.** Annual Income.

**INCOME TARGETING.** The HUD admissions requirement that PHAs not admit less than the number required by law of families whose income does not exceed 30% of the area median income in a fiscal year.

**INDIAN.** Any person recognized as an Indian or Alaska Native by an Indian Tribe, the federal government, or any State.

**INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY (IHA).** A housing agency established either by exercise of the power of self-government of an Indian Tribe, independent of State law, or by operation of State law providing specifically for housing authorities for Indians.

**INTEREST REDUCTION SUBSIDIES.** The monthly payments or discounts made by HUD to reduce the debt service payments and, hence, rents required on Section 236 and 221 (d)(3) BMIR projects. Includes monthly interest reduction payments made to mortgagees of Section 236 projects and front-end loan discounts paid on BMIR projects.

**INVOLUNTARILY DISPLACED PERSON.** Involuntarily Displaced Applicants are applicants who meet the HUD definition for the local preference, formerly known as a federal preference.

**LANDLORD.** Either the legal owner of the property, or the owner's representative or managing agent as designated by the owner.

**LEASE.** A written agreement between an owner and an eligible family for the leasing of a housing unit.

**LIFETIME BAN.** Applies to anyone convicted of drug-related criminal activity for manufacture or production of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing and any member of the household is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender registration program.

**LIVE-IN AIDE.** A person who resides with an elderly person or disabled person and who:

Is determined to be essential to the care and well-being of the person.

Is not obligated for the support of the person.

Would not be living in the unit except to provide necessary supportive services.

**LOCAL PREFERENCE.** A preference used by the PHA to select among applicant families without regard to their date and time of application.

**LOW-INCOME FAMILY.** This definition replaces a previous statutory reference. Generally, "low-income" designates a family whose income does not exceed 80 percent of area median income, with certain adjustments.

**MARKET RENT.** The rent HUD authorizes the owner of FHA insured/subsidized multi-family housing to collect from families ineligible for assistance. For unsubsidized units in an FHA-insured multi-family project in which a portion of the total units receive project-based rental assistance, under the Rental Supplement or Section 202/Section 8 Programs, the Market Rate Rent is that rent approved by HUD and is the Contract Rent for a Section 8 Certificate holder. For BMIR units, Market Rent varies by whether the project is a rental or cooperative.

**MEDICAL EXPENSES.** Those total medical expenses anticipated during the period for which Annual Income is computed, and which are not covered by insurance. (Only Elderly Families qualify) The allowances are applied when medical expenses exceed 3% of Annual Income.

**MINIMUM RENT.** An amount established by the PHA between zero and \$50.00.

**MINOR.** A member of the family household (excluding foster children) other than the family head or spouse who is under 18 years of age.

**MONTHLY ADJUSTED INCOME.** 1/12 of the Annual Income after Allowances.

**MONTHLY INCOME.** 1/12 of the Annual Income before allowances.

**NEAR-ELDERLY FAMILY.** A family whose head, spouse, or sole member is at least 50, but less than 62 years of age. The term includes two or more near-elderly persons living together and one or more such persons living with one or more live-in aides.

**NET FAMILY ASSETS.** The net cash value of equity in savings, checking, IRA and Keogh accounts, real property, stocks, bonds, and other forms of capital investment. The value of necessary items of personal property such as furniture and automobiles is excluded from the definition.

**OCCUPANCY STANDARDS.** [Now referred to as **Subsidy Standards**] Standards established by a PHA to determine the appropriate number of bedrooms for families of different sizes and compositions.

**OFFICIAL RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION.** **Military Id, Drivers License and State Id.**

**PARTICIPANT.** A family that has been admitted to the PHA program, and is currently assisted in the program.

#### **PERSON WITH DISABILITIES**

1. A person who has a disability, as defined in 42 U. S. C. 423, and is determined, under HUD regulations, to have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes the ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.
2. A person who has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 6001.
3. An "individual with handicaps", as defined in 24 CFR 8.3, for purposes of reasonable accommodation and program accessibility for persons with disabilities
4. Does not exclude persons who have AIDS or conditions arising from AIDS
5. Does not include a person whose disability is based solely on any drug or alcohol dependence (for low income housing eligibility purposes)

**PREMISES.** The building or complex in which the dwelling unit is located including common areas and grounds.

**PREVIOUSLY UNEMPLOYED.** Includes a person who has earned, in the twelve months previous to employment, no more than would be received for 10 hours of work per week for 50 weeks at the established minimum wage.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.** Welfare or other payments to families or individuals, based on need, which are made under programs funded, separately or jointly, by Federal, state, or local governments.

**PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY (PHA).** A state, county, municipality, or other governmental entity or public body authorized to administer the programs. The term "PHA" includes an Indian housing authority (IHA). ("PHA" and "IHA" mean the same thing.)

**QUALIFIED FAMILY.** A family residing in public housing whose annual income increases as a result of employment of a family member who was unemployed for one or more years previous to employment; or increased earnings by a family member during participation in any economic

self-sufficiency or on the job training program; or new employment or increased earnings of a family member, during or within 6 months after receiving assistance, benefits or services under any state program for temporary assistance for needy families funded under Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act, as determined by the PHA in consultation with the local TANF agency and Welfare to Work programs. TANF includes income and benefits & services such as one time payments, wage subsidies & transportation assistance, as long as the total amount over a 6-month period is at least \$500.

**QUALITY HOUSING AND WORK RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1998.** The Act which amended the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 and is known as the Public Housing Reform Bill. The Act is directed at revitalizing and improving HUD's Public Housing and Section 8 assistance programs.

**RECERTIFICATION.** Sometimes called reexamination. The process of securing documentation of total family income used to determine the rent the tenant will pay for the next 12 months if no interim changes are reported by the family.

**REMAINING MEMBER OF TENANT FAMILY.** Person left in assisted housing after other family members have left and become unassisted.

**RESIDENCY PREFERENCE.** A local preference for admission of persons who reside in a specified geographic area.

**RESPONSIBLE ENTITY.** For the public housing, Section 8 tenant-based assistance, project-based certificate assistance and moderate rehabilitation program, the responsible entity means the PHA administering the program under an ACC with HUD. For all other Section 8 programs, the responsible entity means the Section 8 owner.

**SECRETARY.** The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

**SECURITY DEPOSIT.** A dollar amount which can be collected from the family by the owner upon termination of the lease and applied to unpaid rent, damages or other amounts owed to the owner under the lease according to State or local law.

**SERVICEPERSON.** A person in the active military or naval service (including the active reserve) of the United States.

**SINGLE PERSON.** A person living alone or intending to live alone who is not disabled, elderly, or displaced, or the remaining member of a tenant family.

**SPECIFIED WELFARE BENEFIT REDUCTION.** Those reductions of welfare agency benefits (for a covered family) that may not result in a reduction of the family rental contribution. "Specified welfare benefit reduction" means a reduction of welfare benefits by the welfare agency, in whole or in part, for a family member, as determined by the welfare agency, because of fraud by a family member in connection with the welfare program; or because of welfare agency sanction against a family member for noncompliance with a welfare agency requirement to participate in an economic self-sufficiency program.

**SPOUSE.** The marriage partner of the head of the household.

**SUBSIDIZED PROJECT.** A multi-family housing project (with the exception of a project owned by a cooperative housing mortgage corporation or association) which receives the benefit of subsidy in the form of:

Below-market interest rates pursuant to Section 221(d)(3) and (5) or interest reduction

payments pursuant to Section 236 of the National Housing Act; or  
Rent supplement payments under Section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965; or  
Direct loans pursuant to Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959; or  
Payments under the Section 23 Housing Assistance Payments Program pursuant to Section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 prior to amendment by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974;  
Payments under the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act after amendment by the Housing and Community Development Act unless the project is owned by a Public Housing Agency;  
A Public Housing Project.

**SUBSIDY STANDARDS.** Standards established by a PHA to determine the appropriate number of bedrooms and amount of subsidy for families of different sizes and compositions.

**TENANT.** (Synonymous with resident) The person or persons who executes the lease as lessee of the dwelling unit.

**TENANT RENT.** The amount payable monthly by the family as rent to the PHA.

**TOTAL TENANT PAYMENT (TTP).** The total amount the HUD rent formula requires the tenant to pay toward rent and utilities.

**UNIT/HOUSING UNIT.** Residential space for the private use of a family. The size of a unit is based on the number of bedrooms contained within the unit and generally ranges from zero bedrooms to six bedrooms.

**UTILITIES.** Utilities means water, electricity, gas, other heating, refrigeration, cooking fuels, trash collection and sewage services. Telephone service is not included as a utility.

**UTILITY ALLOWANCE.** The PHA's estimate of the average monthly utility bills for an energy-conscious household. If all utilities are included in the rent, there is no utility allowance. The utility allowance will vary by unit size and type of utilities.

**UTILITY REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENT.** The amount, if any, by which the Utility Allowance for the unit, if applicable, exceeds the Total Tenant Payment for the family occupying the unit.

**VERY LARGE LOWER-INCOME FAMILY.** Prior to the change in the 1982 regulations this meant a lower-income family which included eight or more minors. (Term no longer used)

**VERY LOW INCOME FAMILY.** A Low-Income Family whose Annual Income does not exceed 50% of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families. HUD may establish income limits higher or lower than 50% of the median income for the area on the basis of its finding that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

**VETERAN.** A person who has served in the active military or naval service of the United States at any time and who shall have been discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

**VIOLENT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.** Any illegal criminal activity that has as one of its

elements the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person or property of another.

**WAITING LIST.** A list of families organized according to HUD regulations and PHA policy who are waiting for subsidy to become available.

**WELFARE ASSISTANCE.** Welfare or other payments to families or individuals, based on need, that are made under programs funded, separately or jointly, by Federal, state, or local governments. **"Welfare assistance" means income assistance from Federal or State welfare programs, and includes only cash maintenance payments designed to meet a tenant(s) ongoing basic needs.** The definition borrows from the Department of Health and Human Services' TANF definition of "assistance" and excludes nonrecurring short-term benefits designed to address individual crisis situations. **For FSS purposes, the following do not constitute welfare assistance: food stamps; emergency rental and utilities assistance; and SSI, SSDI, and Social Security.**

### **III. GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THE NONCITIZENS RULE**

**CHILD.** A member of the family other than the family head or spouse who is under 18 years of age.

**CITIZEN.** A citizen or national of the United States.

**EVIDENCE.** Evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status means the documents which must be submitted to evidence citizenship or eligible immigration status.

**PHA.** A housing authority- either a public housing agency or an Indian housing authority or both.

**HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.** The adult member of the family who is the head of the household for purpose of determining income eligibility and rent.

**HUD.** Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**INS.** The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

**MIXED FAMILY.** A family whose members include those with citizenship or eligible immigration status and those without citizenship or eligible immigration status.

**NATIONAL.** A person who owes permanent allegiance to the United States, for example, as a result of birth in a United States territory or possession.

**NONCITIZEN.** A person who is neither a citizen nor nation of the United States.

**PHA.** A housing authority who operates Public Housing.

**RESPONSIBLE ENTITY.** The person or entity responsible for administering the restrictions on providing assistance to noncitizens with ineligible immigration status (the PHA).

**SECTION 214.** Section 214 restricts HUD from making financial assistance available for noncitizens unless they meet one of the categories of eligible immigration status specified in Section 214.

**SPOUSE.** Spouse refers to the marriage partner, either a husband or wife, who is someone you need to divorce in order to dissolve the relationship. It includes the partner in a common-law marriage. It does not cover boyfriends, girlfriends, significant others, or "co-heads." "Co-head" is a term recognized by some HUD programs, but not by public and Indian housing programs.



