

(2) There exists a unique relationship between the Government of the United States and the governments of Indian tribes and a unique Federal responsibility to Indian people.

(3) The Constitution of the United States invests the Congress with plenary power over the field of Indian affairs, and through treaties, statutes, and historical relations with Indian tribes, the United States has undertaken a unique trust responsibility to protect and support Indian tribes and Indian people.

(4) The Congress, through treaties, statutes, and the general course of dealing with Indian tribes, has assumed a trust responsibility for the protection and preservation of Indian tribes and for working with Indian tribes and their members to improve their housing conditions and socioeconomic status so that they are able to take greater responsibility for their own economic condition.

(5) Providing affordable homes in safe and healthy environments is an essential element in the special role of the United States in helping Indian tribes and their members to improve their housing conditions and socioeconomic status.

(6) The need for affordable homes in safe and healthy environments on Indian reservations, in Indian communities, and in Native Alaskan villages is acute and the Federal government should work not only to provide housing assistance, but also, to the extent practicable, to assist in the development of private housing finance mechanisms on Indian lands to achieve the goals of economic self-sufficiency and self-determination for Indian tribes and their members.

(7) Federal assistance to meet these responsibilities should be provided in a manner that recognizes the right of Indian self-determination and tribal self-governance by making such assistance available directly to the Indian tribes or tribally designated entities under authorities similar to those accorded Indian tribes in Public Law 93-638 (25 U.S.C. 450 *et seq.*).

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed as releasing the United States government from any responsibility arising under its trust respon-

sibilities towards Indians or any treaty or treaties with an Indian tribe or nation.

**§1000.4 What are the objectives of NAHASDA?**

The primary objectives of NAHASDA are:

(a) To assist and promote affordable housing activities to develop, maintain and operate affordable housing in safe and healthy environments on Indian reservations and in other Indian areas for occupancy by low-income Indian families;

(b) To ensure better access to private mortgage markets for Indian tribes and their members and to promote self-sufficiency of Indian tribes and their members;

(c) To coordinate activities to provide housing for Indian tribes and their members and to promote self-sufficiency of Indian tribes and their members;

(d) To plan for and integrate infrastructure resources for Indian tribes with housing development for Indian tribes; and

(e) To promote the development of private capital markets in Indian country and to allow such markets to operate and grow, thereby benefiting Indian communities.

**§1000.6 What is the nature of the IHBG program?**

The IHBG program is formula driven whereby eligible recipients of funding receive an equitable share of appropriations made by the Congress, based upon formula components specified under subpart D of this part. IHBG recipients must have the administrative capacity to undertake the affordable housing activities proposed, including the systems of internal control necessary to administer these activities effectively without fraud, waste, or mismanagement.

**§1000.8 May provisions of these regulations be waived?**

Yes. Upon determination of good cause, the Secretary may, subject to statutory limitations, waive any provision of this part and delegate this authority in accordance with section 106 of the Department of Housing and

Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3535(q)).

**§ 1000.10 What definitions apply in these regulations?**

Except as noted in a particular subpart, the following definitions apply in this part:

(a) The terms “Adjusted income,” “Affordable housing,” “Drug-related criminal activity,” “Elderly families and near-elderly families,” “Elderly person,” “Grant beneficiary,” “Indian,” “Indian housing plan (IHP),” “Indian tribe,” “Low-income family,” “Near-elderly persons,” “Nonprofit,” “Recipient,” “Secretary,” “State,” and “Tribally designated housing entity (TDHE)” are defined in section 4 of NAHASDA.

(b) In addition to the definitions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, the following definitions apply to this part:

*Affordable housing activities* are those activities identified in section 202 of NAHASDA.

*Annual Contributions Contract (ACC)* means a contract under the 1937 Act between HUD and an IHA containing the terms and conditions under which HUD assists the IHA in providing decent, safe, and sanitary housing for low-income families.

*Annual income* has one of the following meanings, as determined by the Indian tribe:

(1) “Annual income” as defined for HUD’s Section 8 programs in 24 CFR part 5, subpart F (except when determining the income of a homebuyer for an owner-occupied rehabilitation project, the value of the homeowner’s principal residence may be excluded from the calculation of Net Family assets); or

(2) Annual income as reported under the Census long-form for the most recent available decennial Census. This definition includes:

- (i) Wages, salaries, tips, commissions, etc.;
- (ii) Self-employment income;
- (iii) Farm self-employment income;
- (iv) Interest, dividends, net rental income, or income from estates or trusts;
- (v) Social security or railroad retirement;
- (vi) Supplemental Security Income, Aid to Families with Dependent Chil-

dren, or other public assistance or public welfare programs;

(vii) Retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and

(viii) Any other sources of income received regularly, including Veterans’ (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, and alimony; or

(3) Adjusted gross income as defined for purposes of reporting under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 1040 series for individual Federal annual income tax purposes.

*Assistant Secretary* means the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

*Department or HUD* means the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

*Family* includes, but is not limited to, a family with or without children, an elderly family, a near-elderly family, a disabled family, a single person, as determined by the Indian tribe.

*Homebuyer payment* means the payment of a family purchasing a home pursuant to a lease purchase agreement.

*Homeless family* means a family who is without safe, sanitary and affordable housing even though it may have temporary shelter provided by the community, or a family who is homeless as determined by the Indian tribe.

*IHBG* means Indian Housing Block Grant.

*Income* means annual income as defined in this subpart.

*Indian Area* means the area within which an Indian tribe operates affordable housing programs or the area in which a TDHE is authorized by one or more Indian tribes to operate affordable housing programs. Whenever the term “jurisdiction” is used in NAHASDA it shall mean “Indian Area” except where specific reference is made to the jurisdiction of a court.

*Indian Housing Authority (IHA)* means an entity that:

(1) Is authorized to engage or assist in the development or operation of low-income housing for Indians under the 1937 Act; and

(2) Is established:

(i) By exercise of the power of self government of an Indian tribe independent of state law; or