

(2) Complete their data loading; and

(3) Begin electronic transmission by March 2, 1996.

(c) *Electronic transmission of data.* Electronic transmission of data consists of submission of all required data fields (correctly formatted) from the forms HUD-050058 and HUD-50058-FSS telephonically, in accordance with HUD instructions. Regardless of whether an HA obtains the ADP system itself or contracts with a service bureau to provide the system, the software must be periodically updated to incorporate changes or revisions in legislation, regulations, handbooks, notices, or HUD electronic transmission data format requirements.

(d) *Service contract.* HAs that determine that the purchase of hardware and/or software is not cost effective may contract out the electronic data transmission function to organizations that provide such services, including, but not limited to the following organizations: local management associations and management agents with centralized facilities. HAs that contract out the electronic transmission function must retain the ability to monitor the day-to-day operations of the project at the HA site and be able to demonstrate the ability to the relevant HUD Field Office.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, the Department may approve transmission of the data by tape or diskette if it determines that the cost of telephonic transmission would be excessive.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2577-0083)

§ 908.108 Cost.

(a) *General.* The costs of the electronic transmission of the correctly formatted data, including either the purchase and maintenance of computer hardware or software, or both, the cost of contracting for those services, or the cost of centralizing the electronic transmission function, shall be considered Section 8 Administrative expenses, or eligible public and Indian housing operating expenses that can be included in the public and Indian housing operating budget. At the HA's option, the cost of the computer software

may include service contracts to provide maintenance or training, or both.

(b) *Sources of funding.* For public and Indian housing, costs may be covered from operating subsidy for which the HA is already eligible, or the initial cost may be covered by funds received by the HA under HUD's Comprehensive Improvement Assistance Program (CIAP) or Comprehensive Grant Program (CGP). For Section 8 programs, the costs may be covered from ongoing administrative fees or the Section 8 operating reserve.

§ 908.112 Extension of time.

The HUD Field Office may grant an HA an extension of time, of a reasonable period, for implementation of the requirements of § 908.104, if it determines that such electronic submission is infeasible because of one of the following:

(a) Lack of staff resources;

(b) Insufficient financial resources to purchase the required hardware, software or contractual services; or

(c) Lack of adequate infrastructure, including, but not limited to, the inability to obtain telephone service to transmit the required data.

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