

**§ 5.240 Family disclosure of income information to the responsible entity and verification.**

(a) This section applies to families that reside in dwelling units with assistance under the public housing program, the Section 8 tenant-based assistance programs, or for which project-based assistance is provided under the Section 8, Section 202, or Section 811 program.

(b) The family must promptly furnish to the responsible entity any letter or other notice by HUD to a member of the family that provides information concerning the amount or verification of family income.

(c) The responsible entity must verify the accuracy of the income information received from the family, and change the amount of the total tenant payment, tenant rent or Section 8 housing assistance payment, or terminate assistance, as appropriate, based on such information.

[65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000]

**Subpart C—Pet Ownership for the Elderly or Persons With Disabilities**

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 1701r-1 and 3535(d).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**§ 5.300 Purpose.**

(a) This subpart implements section 227 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 1701r-1) as it pertains to projects for the elderly or persons with disabilities under:

(1) The housing programs administered by the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner;

(2) Projects assisted under the programs contained in chapter VIII of this title 24; and

(3) The public housing program.

(b) [Reserved]

[61 FR 5202, Feb. 9, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000]

**§ 5.303 Exclusion for animals that assist persons with disabilities.**

(a) This subpart C does not apply to animals that are used to assist persons with disabilities. Project owners and PHAs may not apply or enforce any pet

rules developed under this subpart against individuals with animals that are used to assist persons with disabilities. This exclusion applies to animals that reside in projects for the elderly or persons with disabilities, as well as to animals that visit these projects.

(1) A project owner may require resident animals to qualify for this exclusion. Project owners must grant this exclusion if:

(i) The tenant or prospective tenant certifies in writing that the tenant or a member of his or her family is a person with a disability;

(ii) The animal has been trained to assist persons with that specific disability; and

(iii) The animal actually assists the person with a disability.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) Nothing in this subpart C:

(1) Limits or impairs the rights of persons with disabilities;

(2) Authorizes project owners or PHAs to limit or impair the rights of persons with disabilities; or

(3) Affects any authority that project owners or PHAs may have to regulate animals that assist persons with disabilities, under Federal, State, or local law.

**§ 5.306 Definitions.**

*Common household pet* means:

(1) *For purposes of Housing programs:* A domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rodent (including a rabbit), fish, or turtle, that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes. Common household pet does not include reptiles (except turtles). If this definition conflicts with any applicable State or local law or regulation defining the pets that may be owned or kept in dwelling accommodations, the State or local law or regulation shall apply. This definition shall not include animals that are used to assist persons with disabilities.

(2) *For purposes of Public Housing programs:* PHAs may define the term “common household pet” under § 5.318.

*Elderly or disabled family* means:

(1) *For purposes of Housing programs:* An elderly person, a person with a disability, or an elderly or disabled family for purposes of the program under

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which a project for the elderly or persons with disabilities is assisted or has its mortgage insured.

(2) *For purposes of Public Housing programs:* (i) An elderly person, a person with a disability, or an elderly or disabled family as defined in §5.403 in subpart A of this part.

(ii) [Reserved]

*Housing programs* means:

(1) The housing programs administered by the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner; and

(2) The programs contained in chapter VIII of this title 24 that assist rental projects that meet the definition of project for the elderly or persons with disabilities in this subpart C.

*Project for the elderly or persons with disabilities* means:

(1) *For purposes of Housing programs:* (i) A specific rental or cooperative multifamily property that, unless currently owned by HUD, is subject to a first mortgage, and:

(A) That is assisted under statutory authority identified by HUD through notice;

(B) That was designated for occupancy by elderly or disabled families when funds for the project were reserved, or when the commitment to insure the mortgage was issued or, of not then so designated, that is designated for such occupancy in an effective amendment to the regulatory agreement covering the project, made pursuant to the project owner's request, and that is assisted or insured under one of the programs identified by HUD through notice; or

(C) For which preference in tenant selection is given for all units in the project to elderly or disabled families and that is owned by HUD or assisted under one of the programs identified by HUD through notice.

(ii) This term does not include health and care facilities that have mortgage insurance under the National Housing Act. This term also does not include any of the project owner's other property that does not meet the criteria contained in any one of paragraphs (1)(i)(A) through (C) of this definition, even if the property is adjacent to or under joint or common management with such specific property.

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(2) *For purposes of Public Housing programs:* Any project assisted under title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (other than under section 8 or 17 of the Act), including any building within a mixed-use project, that was designated for occupancy by the elderly or persons with disabilities at its inception or, although not so designated, for which the PHA gives preference in tenant selection (with HUD approval) for all units in the project (or for a building within a mixed-use project) to elderly or disabled families. For purposes of this part, this term does not include projects assisted the Low-Rent Housing Homeownership Opportunity program or under title II of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

*Project owner* means an owner (including HUD, where HUD is the owner) or manager of a project for the elderly or persons with disabilities, or an agent authorized to act for an owner or manager of such housing.

*Public Housing Agency (PHA)* is defined in §5.100.

[61 FR 5202, Feb. 9, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000]

### §5.309 Prohibition against discrimination.

Except as otherwise specifically authorized under this subpart no project owner or PHA that owns or manages a project for the elderly or persons with disabilities may:

(a) As a condition of tenancy or otherwise, prohibit or prevent any tenant of such housing from owning common household pets or having such pets living in the tenant's dwelling unit; or

(b) Restrict or discriminate against any person in connection with admission to, or continued occupancy of, such housing by reason of the person's ownership of common household pets or the presence of such pets in the person's dwelling unit.

### §5.312 Notice to tenants.

(a) During the development of pet rules as described in §§5.353 or 5.380, the project owner or PHA shall serve written notice on all tenants of projects for the elderly or persons with disabilities in occupancy at the time of service, stating that: