

coordinator's case management functions.

Through annual NOFAs, HUD has provided funding to PHAs that are operating Housing Choice Voucher FSS programs to enable those PHAs to employ program coordinators to support their Housing Choice Voucher FSS programs.

In the FY 2003 Housing Choice Voucher FSS Program Coordinator NOFA, HUD is again making funding available to PHAs to employ FSS program coordinators and FSS homeownership program coordinators for one year.

PHAs funded under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002 are considered "renewal" PHAs in this NOFA. These renewal PHAs are invited to apply for funds to continue previously funded FSS program coordinator positions. In addition, any renewal PHA that did not receive funding for a Housing Choice Voucher FSS homeownership coordinator under the FY 2002 FSS NOFA is invited to apply for funding for a coordinator position to support FSS homeownership activities.

Because of the importance of the FSS program in helping families increase earned income and develop assets, HUD will also accept applications from "new" PHAs that were not funded under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002.

To support the Department's initiatives on Colonias, a selection preference is included in this NOFA for "new" applicant PHAs that provide services and support to rural underserved communities in the Southwest Border regions of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas. See Section IV.A.(3)(c) of this NOFA for requirements that must be met to qualify for the Colonias preference.

In this NOFA, the FSS program size is the total number of Housing Choice Voucher FSS program slots identified in the PHA's HUD-approved FSS Action Plan. To ensure that the application is accurate, prior to submitting an application, new PHAs may wish to confirm the number of HUD-approved slots their local HUD field office has on record for the PHA. An FSS Action Plan can be updated by means of a simple one-page addendum that reflects the total number of FSS slots (voluntary and/or mandatory slots) the PHA intends to serve. This addendum must be approved by the PHA's local HUD field office.

For a new PHA applicant to qualify for funding under this NOFA, the PHA's initial FSS Action Plan or amendment to change the number of Housing Choice

Voucher FSS slots in the PHA's previously HUD-approved FSS Action Plan must be submitted to and approved by the PHA's local HUD field office prior to the application due date under this NOFA.

(B) *Eligible Applicants.* PHAs eligible to apply for funding under this NOFA are:

(1) *Renewal PHAs.* Those PHAs that received funding under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002.

(2) *New PHAs.* PHAs that were not funded under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002 that:

(a) Are authorized through their HUD-approved FSS Action Plan to administer a Housing Choice Voucher FSS program of at least 25 slots; or

(b) Are PHAs with HUD approval to administer Housing Choice Voucher FSS programs of fewer than 25 slots that apply jointly with one or more other PHAs so that together they have HUD approval to administer at least 25 Housing Choice Voucher FSS slots. Joint applicants must specify a lead co-applicant that will receive and administer the FSS program coordinator funding.

(3) *Moving to Work (MTW) PHAs.* PHAs that are under the MTW demonstration may qualify for funding under this NOFA if the PHA administers an FSS program. When determining the size of a MTW PHA's HUD-approved FSS program, the PHA may request that the number of FSS slots reflected in the PHA's MTW agreement be used instead of the number in the PHA's FSS Action Plan.

(4) *Troubled PHAs.* (a) A PHA that has been designated by HUD as a troubled PHA under the Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP), or has major program management findings from Inspector General audits or serious outstanding HUD management review or IPA audit findings for the PHA's Housing Choice Voucher or Moderate Rehabilitation programs that are resolved prior to the application due date is eligible to apply under this NOFA. Serious program management findings are those that would cast doubt on the capacity of the PHA to administer its Housing Choice Voucher FSS program in accordance with applicable HUD regulatory and statutory requirements.

(b) A PHA whose SEMAP troubled designation has not been removed by HUD or the findings resolved by the due date, may apply if the PHA submits an application that designates another contractor that is acceptable to HUD that:

(i) Includes an agreement by the other contractor to administer the FSS program on behalf of the PHA; and

(ii) In the instance of a PHA with unresolved major program management findings, includes a statement that outlines the steps the PHA is taking to resolve the program findings.

(C) *Number of Positions for which Eligible PHAs may apply:* Eligible PHAs may apply for funding for Housing Choice Voucher FSS coordinator positions under this NOFA as follows:

(1) *Renewal PHAs.* PHAs that received funding under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002 that qualify as eligible PHAs under the definition of eligible applicants in Section III.B. of this NOFA, may apply for:

(a) Renewal of each FSS coordinator position, including homeownership coordinator positions, most recently funded under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002 that has been filled by the PHA.

(b) Up to one initial full-time FSS homeownership program coordinator for renewal PHAs with qualifying homeownership programs that did not receive funding for a homeownership coordinator under the FY 2002 FSS NOFA.

(2) *New PHAs:* A PHA that did not receive funding under an FSS NOFA in FY 1999, FY 2000, FY 2001, or FY 2002 may apply for funding for Housing Choice Voucher FSS program coordinator positions as follows:

(a) Up to one full-time FSS coordinator position for a PHA with HUD approval to administer an FSS program of 25 or more FSS slots.

(b) Up to one full-time position per application for joint PHA applicants that have HUD approval to administer a total of at least 25 Housing Choice Voucher FSS slots between or among them.

(D) *Eligible Activities.* Funds awarded to PHAs under this NOFA may only be used to employ or otherwise retain the services of Housing Choice Voucher FSS program coordinators and FSS homeownership coordinators for one year. A part-time program coordinator may be retained where appropriate.

(E) *Ineligible Activities.* (1) Funds under this NOFA may not be used to pay the salary of an FSS coordinator for a public housing FSS program. Operating subsidy can be used to fund a public housing FSS program coordinator's salary.

(2) Funds under this NOFA may not be used to pay for services for FSS program participants.