

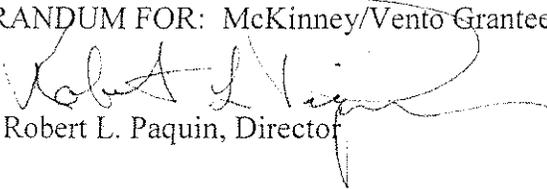


U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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MEMORANDUM FOR: McKinney/Vento Grantee

  
FROM: Robert L. Paquin, Director

SUBJECT: Major Changes Affecting the McKinney/Vento Program  
Eligibility Criteria for FY 06 Permanent Housing Projects

Congratulations on your recent award of Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06) McKinney/Vento Homeless Assistance Funds. HUD guidance included in the FY06 SuperNOFA announced important changes for FY06 Permanent Housing projects regarding eligibility criteria. Specifically, **all new and renewal FY06 Permanent Housing projects must now only serve homeless people living in places not meant for human habitation, in emergency shelter, or in transitional housing for homeless persons.**

This Fact Sheet provides more information about these changes that affect FY06 Permanent Housing projects and suggested methods to document compliance with these changes. For a complete listing of projects awarded funds through the FY06 SuperNOFA, visit [www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/budget/2006](http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/budget/2006). Please note that the changes in eligibility criteria outlined in this Fact Sheet **do not** impact projects providing Transitional Housing, Safe Havens (transitional housing), or Supportive Services Only.

**FACT SHEET**  
**Important Changes for Fiscal Year 2006**  
**McKinney/Vento Permanent Housing Projects**

The following people are no longer eligible to receive assistance from a FY06 Permanent Housing project:

- Persons that are being evicted within a week from a private dwelling unit and no subsequent residence has been identified and the person lacks the resources and support networks needed to obtain housing; or
- Persons who are being discharged within a week from an institution in which the person has been a resident for 30 or more consecutive days and no subsequent residence has been identified and he/she lacks the resources and support networks needed to obtain housing.

➤ **What McKinney/Vento Grants are Affected by this Change?**

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All new and renewal Permanent Housing projects that received funding through the FY06 SuperNOFA including:

- New and renewal FY06 Shelter Plus Care grants (tenant-based, sponsor-based, project-based, and SRO-based) grants
- New and renewal FY06 Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing for Persons with Disabilities grants
- New and renewal FY06 Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy

➤ **When Does this Change Take Affect?**

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**For new FY06 Permanent Housing projects:** the change in eligibility criteria takes affect immediately. Grantees should only be serving those homeless people that are living in places not meant for human habitation, in emergency shelters, or in transitional housing for homeless persons.

**For renewal FY06 Permanent Housing projects:** the change in eligibility criteria must be implemented as units become vacant. Current residents of FY06 renewal Permanent Housing projects should not be removed from their housing if they no longer meet the new eligibility criteria. However, when a unit becomes vacant, the grantee must use the new criteria described above when determining eligibility for the available permanent housing unit.

➤ **How does this Change Affect Permanent Housing Projects that were Funded Before FY06?**

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This change in eligibility criteria only affects those existing Permanent Housing projects that received renewal funding through the FY06 SuperNOFA. Existing Permanent Housing projects that received funding prior to FY06 may continue to serve additional homeless populations including: people who are being evicted within a week from a private dwelling unit (and have no subsequent residence and the lacks resources needed to obtain housing); people who are being discharged within a week from an institution in which the person has been a resident for 30 or more consecutive days (and have no subsequent residence and lacks resources needed to obtain housing).

It is important that grantees review all applicable HUD guidance (e.g., FY06 SuperNOFA) to determine what, if any, changes will affect their project in the future.

➤ **How does this Change Affect Permanent Housing Projects that Target Chronically Homeless People?**

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Chronically homeless individuals are those individuals with a disabling condition who have been continuously homeless for a year or more or have had at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the past three years. In order to be considered chronically homeless, a person must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation and/or in an emergency shelter.

For new and renewal FY 06 permanent housing projects targeting chronically homeless individuals, persons assisted must be homeless and come from one of the two places listed below:

- Places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned building;
- An Emergency shelter

Note that chronically homeless individuals that enter a transitional housing for the homeless program are not longer eligible to access permanent supportive housing reserved for the chronically homeless.

➤ **Who is Eligible to Receive Assistance from FY06 Permanent Housing Projects?**

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Question C(1) of HUD's *Questions and Answers: A Supplement to the 2006 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance NOFA and Application* states that for the purposes of eligibility for McKinney/Vento grants:

A person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the three places described below. **For new and renewal projects, persons assisted with permanent housing must be homeless and come from:**

- Places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned building;
- An emergency shelter; or
- Transitional housing for homeless persons and who originally came from the streets or the emergency shelter.

If a person is in one of the three categories listed above, but most recently spent less than 30 days in a jail or institution, he/she qualifies as coming from one of these three categories.



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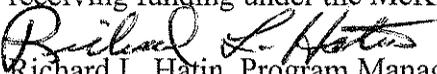
"To Help People Create  
Communities of Opportunity"

603-666-7510

603-666-7644 (Fax)

CPD website: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/index.cfm>

TO: Supportive Housing Program (SHP); Shelter Plus Care (S+C) grantees and sponsors receiving funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

FROM:   
Richard L. Hatin, Program Manager

DATE: June 27, 2007

SUBJECT: Documenting Client Eligibility

Under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Act) the emergency shelter and transitional housing programs were authorized to be administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Act provides the first step to addressing the needs of a population that is, by and large, unknown and underrepresented. While there has been a slight increase in the Homeless Assistance Appropriations Budget for 2007 every dollar that provides assistance to eligible clients is significant. Most SHP grantees are renewals and receive one year of level funding for their programs. S+ C renewal grantees depend on the Fair Market Rents and usually provide an increase in their funding amounts.

During recent monitoring visits to SHP and S+C grantees/sponsors, a major deficiency has repeatedly become an issue – **documenting client eligibility**. Persons who are not homeless (by HUD definition) may not receive assistance under SHP/S+C. Grantees are responsible for ensuring that documentation of the client eligibility is kept in the participants' files. HUD's definitions can be found in many resources but each year in the Q&A's of the NOFA application Section C. Eligible Persons to be Served; information is provided to the current HUD definition. When applying for SHP/S+C funds it is imperative that the project narrative demonstrates that the proposed population to be served is homeless. Your application is integrated into the grant agreement. For S+C population the grantee must have written verification from a qualified source that the person has a disability, in addition to being homeless.

Your CPD Representative provides written notification prior to monitoring and the checklists used during the review of the grantees files are available at the following web site:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/library/monitoring/handbook.cfm>