



February 6, 2020

PH PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Posts Submission Checklist for Emergency and Disaster Capital Needs

HUD’s Office of Capital Improvements ([OCI](#)) has posted a [checklist](#) for submitting grant applications to fund capital needs arising from emergencies and non-presidentially declared natural disasters occurring between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020. In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2020, HUD has made \$20 million available to fund such grants and is accepting applications on a first come, first served basis until funds are exhausted.

- An *emergency* is an unforeseen or unpreventable event or occurrence that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of residents that must be corrected within one year of funding.
- A *non-presidentially declared natural disaster* is an extraordinary event, such as an earthquake, flood, or hurricane, affecting a public housing property owned and managed by a PHA, but excluding areas covered by a presidentially declared major disaster or emergency, as those areas are eligible for funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency ([FEMA](#)).

PHAs should be aware that if they have large [Operating Fund](#) or [Capital Fund](#) reserve balances that are unobligated, they may be required to use those funds prior to receiving an emergency or non-presidentially declared disaster grant. Additional information can be found in Chapter 8 of the [Capital Fund Guidebook](#).

PIH Updates UEL Inflation Factor

Yesterday on the calendar year (CY) [2020 subsidy processing page](#), HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) posted an updated version of a [PDF document](#) announcing that the inflation factor to be used in the HUD-52722 tools for calculating CY 2020 utility expense levels (UELs) is **1.0325**. The updated document is dated February 5.

The document also explains how PIH calculated the inflation factor. The calculation involves determining the weighted rate of change in utility costs during the reporting period (2.17 percent) and then inflating it to the anticipated rate that PHAs will pay during the funding period (3.25 percent).



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