



MULTIFAMILY HOUSING UPDATES

Multifamily Housing Notice 21-12

July 1, 2021

To: Developers, Sponsors and Local Housing Contacts
From: Gregory Hare, Director, Multifamily Housing
Re: *Assisted Housing Relief Program Update – Guidance on Self-Certifications*

The Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) set aside \$40 million to relaunch the Assisted Housing Relief Program (AHRP), which serves rental units in multifamily projects financed by DHCD's Community Development Administration using State funds and other federal resources.

The Department received several inquiries regarding the use of self-certifications, particularly in connection with other financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In accordance with Treasury guidance, for AHRP, properties must document that one or more members of the applicant's household either qualified for unemployment benefits; or experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to the COVID-19 outbreak.

It may be difficult for some properties to establish whether a financial hardship experienced during the pandemic is due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Therefore, Treasury strongly encourages grantees to rely on the self-certification of applicants with regard to whether their financial hardship meets these statutory eligibility requirements. With this in mind, the Department is taking the same position, and encourages the use of self-certifications for other financial hardships.

Additionally, there is a new feature in the AHRP Portal that allows users to copy tenant details from previous applications when submitting new requests. Instructions, FAQs, and more details will be available next week.

Questions? Please submit questions to dhcd.rentrelief@maryland.gov.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING EMAILING OF MULTIFAMILY NOTICES

Multifamily Housing issues periodic notices (such as the one above) to announce new initiatives, provide important news, announce funding round deadlines, significant application changes, bond program amendments, and other key dates and facts on our website and by email only. You can subscribe to receive Multifamily Housing Notices at the following link:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MDDHCD/subscriber/new?topic_id=DHCDMF

Notices are posted to the DHCD website at the following location:

<http://dhcd.maryland.gov/HousingDevelopment/Pages/MFLibrary.aspx>