

(Rule 0770-01-05-.25, continued)

~~(3) Veteran's Administrative Support Housing (VASH) Port Ins. The Veterans Assistance Special Housing program is a special program administered by some public housing agencies, however the THDA does not currently have an allocation of VASH vouchers. Housing agencies that do not have an allocation may still administer a VASH voucher through portability from another PHA with a VASH program.~~

~~(a) Eligibility and Selection. HUD VASH eligible families are homeless veterans. The Veteran Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) screens all families in accordance with its screening criteria. PHAs that agree to administer the HUD VASH Program relinquish their authority to determine the eligibility of families in accordance with regular HCV Program rules and PHA policies. Specifically, under the HUD VASH Program, PHAs do not have the authority to screen potentially eligible families or deny assistance for any grounds permitted under 24 C.F.R. 982.552 (broad denial for violations of HCV program requirements) and 982.553 (specific denial for criminals and alcohol abusers), with one exception. PHAs will still be required to prohibit admission if any member of the household is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender registration program.~~

~~(b) Income Eligibility. The PHA must determine income eligibility for HUD VASH families in accordance with 24 C.F.R. 982.201.~~

~~(c) Initial Term of Housing Choice Voucher. Recognizing the challenges that HUD VASH participants may face with their housing search, HUD VASH vouchers must have an initial search term of at least 120 days. Therefore, § 982.303(a), which states that the initial search term must be at least 60 days, shall not apply, since the initial term must be at least 120 days.~~

~~(d) Ineligible Housing. HUD VASH families will be permitted to live on the grounds of a VAMC in units owned by the VA. Therefore, 24 C.F.R. 982.352(a)(5), which prohibits units on the grounds of a medical, mental, or similar public or private institution, is waived for that purpose only. All other units found suitable under regular voucher program rules apply for VASH families.~~

~~(e) Portability of HUD VASH Vouchers. An eligible family issued a HUD VASH voucher must receive case management services provided by the VAMC. Therefore, special mobility and portability procedures must be established. HUD VASH participant families may reside only in those jurisdictional areas that are accessible to case management services as determined by the partnering VAMC.~~

~~1. Portability Moves Where Case Management is provided by the Initial PHA's Partnering VAMC. The THDA does not manage a VASH program, thus, the initial PHA's partnering VAMC will still provide the necessary case management services due to its proximity to the partnering VAMC. The portability move-in will be processed in accordance with the portability procedures of 24 C.F.R. 982.355. However, since the initial PHA must maintain records on all HUD VASH families receiving case management services from its partnering VAMC, the THDA must bill the initial PHA. 24 C.F.R. 982.355(d), which gives the receiving PHA the option to absorb the family into its own HCV program or bill the initial PHA, is not applicable.~~

~~2. Completing Form HUD-50058. When the form HUD-50058 is completed, the action type that must be recorded on line 2a is "4" for a portability move-in (a family that was~~

~~previously leased up in the jurisdiction of the initial PHA). In section 12 of the HUD-50058, line 12d is marked "Y," 12e must have an amount recorded, and 12f must include the initial PHA's code. The VASH special program code must be maintained on line 2n of the form HUD-50058 by the initial and receiving PHA for all HUD-VASH families when the family is admitted to the voucher program and throughout the family's participation in the program. If, under portability, the THDA does not enter the VASH code, the initial PHA will not get credit for the family's leasing.~~

~~(f) Case Management Requirements. The VAMC responsibilities include:~~

- ~~1. Screening of homeless veterans to determine whether they meet the HUD-VASH program participation criteria established by the VA national office;~~
- ~~2. Providing appropriate treatment and supportive services to potential HUD-VASH program participants, if needed, prior to PHA issuance of rental vouchers;~~
- ~~3. Providing housing search assistance to HUD-VASH participants with rental vouchers;~~
- ~~4. Identifying the social service and medical needs of HUD-VASH participants and providing, or ensuring the provision of, regular ongoing case management, outpatient health services, hospitalization, and other supportive services as needed throughout this initiative; and~~
- ~~5. Maintaining records and providing information for evaluation purposes, as required by HUD and the VA.~~

~~(g) Denials of Admission and Termination of Assistance.~~

- ~~1. Denials. The only reasons for denial of assistance by the PHA are failure to meet the income eligibility requirements and a family member that is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender registration program.~~
- ~~2. Termination of Assistance. The VASH Operating Requirements do not specify that PHAs must treat VASH clients any differently than regular HCV participants in terms of the requirements of the family obligations. Therefore, the termination policies outlined within this Administrative Plan apply.~~
- ~~3. If a VASH client is terminated from a THDA program for a program violation, but the same family is sent to the THDA by an initial PHA with a VASH allocation before the end of the three year penalty for re-admission, the THDA will not accept the portability move-in.~~
 - ~~(i) HUD regulations and the THDA policy determine whether and when the family may move to another unit.~~
 - ~~(ii) If the family moves to another unit, the same lease up steps are followed. Annual recertification at this time is at THDA's option.~~

0770-01-05-.36 VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT HOUSING (VASH). Section 8(o)(9) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as modified by the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328, approved December 29, 2022) (the Act), authorized HUD to allocate approximately \$94.4 million in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH). Under this Act, THDA is allocated HUD-VASH vouchers to serve homeless veterans in partnership with the Veterans Administration. THDA will administer the HUD-VASH vouchers, in compliance with Federal Regulations and this Administrative Plan. THDA reserves the right to continue administration of VASH vouchers, dependent on available and adequate HUD funding, including the right to project-base.

- (1) **Eligibility and Selection.** HUD-VASH eligible families are homeless veterans. The Veteran Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) screens all families in accordance with its screening criteria. Public Housing Authorities (PHA) that agree to administer the HUD-VASH Program relinquish their authority to determine the eligibility of families in accordance with regular HCV Program rules and PHA policies. Specifically, under the HUD-VASH Program, PHAs do not have the authority to screen potentially eligible families or deny assistance for any grounds permitted under 24 C.F.R. 982.552 (broad denial for violations of HCV program requirements) and 982.553 (specific denial for criminals and alcohol abusers), with one exception. PHAs will still be required to prohibit admission if any member of the household is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender registration program.
- (2) **Income Eligibility.** THDA must determine income eligibility for HUD-VASH families in accordance with 24 C.F.R. 982.201.
- (3) **Initial Term of Housing Choice Voucher.** Recognizing the challenges that HUD-VASH participants may face with their housing search, HUD-VASH vouchers must have an initial search term of at least 120 days. Therefore, 24 C.F.R. 982.303(a), which states that the initial search term must be at least 60 days, shall not apply, since the initial term must be at least 120 days.
- (4) **Ineligible Housing.** HUD-VASH families will be permitted to live on the grounds of a VAMC in units owned by the VA. Therefore, 24 C.F.R. 982.352(a)(5), which prohibits units on the grounds of a medical, mental, or similar public or private institution, is waived for that purpose only. All other units found suitable under regular voucher program rules apply for VASH families.
- (5) **Portability of HUD-VASH Vouchers.** An eligible family issued a HUD-VASH voucher must receive case management services provided by the VAMC. Therefore, special mobility and portability procedures must be established. HUD-VASH participant families may reside only in those jurisdictional areas that are accessible to case management services as determined by the partnering VAMC.
 - a. **Portability within the Initial VAMC's area.** The family must be able to continue with case management services provided by the VAMC to port the voucher. The receiving PHA must process the move in accordance with portability procedures. If the receiving PHA administers a HUD-VASH program, it can either bill the initial PHA or absorb the family. If the receiving PHA does not administer a VASH program, it must bill the initial PHA.
 - b. **Portability outside of the Initial VAMC's area.** If a family wants to move to another jurisdiction where it will not be possible for the initial PHA's partnering VAMC to provide case management services, the initial VAMC must determine that the family could be served by another VAMC that is partnering in the HUD-VASH Program and that the

receiving PHA has an available HUD-VASH voucher. The family must be absorbed by the receiving PHA either as a new admission or as a portability move-in. Upon absorption, the initial PHA's HUD-VASH voucher will be available to lease to a new HUD-VASH eligible family and the absorbed family will count toward the number of HUD-VASH vouchers awarded to the receiving PHA. The receiving PHA must process the move in accordance with portability procedures.

- c. Completing Form HUD-50058. When the form HUD-50058 is completed, the action type that must be recorded on line 2a is "4" for a portability move-in (a family that was previously leased up in the jurisdiction of the initial PHA). In section 12 of the HUD-50058, line 12d is marked "Y," 12e must have an amount recorded, and 12f must include the initial PHA's code. The VASH special program code must be maintained on line 2n of the form HUD-50058 by the initial and receiving PHA for all HUD-VASH families when the family is admitted to the voucher program and throughout the family's participation in the program. If, under portability, THDA does not enter the VASH code, the initial PHA will not get credit for the family's leasing.

(6) Case Management Requirements. The VAMC responsibilities include:

- a. Screening of homeless veterans to determine whether they meet the HUD-VASH program participation criteria established by the VA national office;
- b. Providing appropriate treatment and supportive services to potential HUD- VASH program participants, if needed, prior to PHA issuance of rental vouchers;
- c. Providing housing search assistance to HUD-VASH participants with rental vouchers;
- d. Identifying the social service and medical needs of HUD-VASH participants and providing, or ensuring the provision of, regular ongoing case management, outpatient health services, hospitalization, and other supportive services as needed throughout this initiative; and
- e. Maintaining records and providing information for evaluation purposes, as required by HUD and the VA.

(7) Denials of Admission and Termination of Assistance.

- a. Denials. The only reasons for denial of assistance by THDA are failure to meet the income eligibility requirements and a family member that is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender registration program.
- b. Termination of Assistance. The VASH Operating Requirements do not specify that THDA must treat VASH clients any differently than regular HCV participants in terms of the requirements of the family obligations. Therefore, the termination policies outlined within this Administrative Plan apply.
- c. If a VASH client is terminated from a THDA program for a program violation, but the same family is sent to THDA by an initial PHA with a VASH allocation before the end of the three year penalty for re-admission, THDA will not accept the portability move-in.

- i. HUD regulations and THDA policy determine whether and when the family may move to another unit.
- ii. If the family moves to another unit, the same lease-up steps are followed.