

instructed by SAMHSA); and the third component will consist of a streamlined set of questions describing clients' behavioral health history, screening and diagnosis items, and services provided to clients (as reported at the client-level by the grantee using alternate data sources that already may be in use for other purposes, for example an electronic health or medical record). Question(s) about services provided to the client will only be required at reassessment and annually for some programs as instructed by SAMHSA.

Currently, the tool and final burden table are still under development and will be available as part of the 30-Day FRN. However, SAMHSA expects that use of the multi-component tool will result in a significant decrease in burden for client and grantee annualized reporting, not only because of the streamlining of questions, but also because not all items will be required at every data collection time point. For example, SAMHSA anticipates that the services provided item will not be required to report at baseline, only reassessment and, for some programs, annually. SAMHSA is also finalizing a revised policy on when reassessments are expected to occur, recognizing that a one-size fits all approach may not be appropriate for all client-focused grant programs. SAMHSA is conducting testing to establish a better estimate of the time it will take to complete the information collection given the varying degree of direct client involvement across the new tool's components and grantee use of alternate data sources for a portion of the tool. At this point, SAMHSA estimates that approximately 1,500 client-focused grantees annually will use the tool and with a burden hour estimate per assessment that ranges from 0.13 to 0.27 for each of the three tool components. SAMHSA's goal is to develop a new performance tool that is streamlined and will significantly reduce burden compared to the current performance tools.

Send comments to the SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 15E45, Rockville, Maryland 20857, OR email a copy to samhsapra@samhsa.hhs.gov. The draft tool can be found at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/gpra-measurement-tools>. Written comments should be received by 15 Oct 2024.

Alicia Broadus,

Public Health Advisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-7080-N-45]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requirement: Comment Request; Implementation of the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 (HOPA); OMB Control No. 2529-0046

AGENCY: Office of Policy Development and Research, Chief Data Officer, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HUD is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD is requesting comment from all interested parties on the proposed collection of information. The purpose of this notice is to allow for an additional 30 days of public comment.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* October 7, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov or www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

Interested persons are also invited to submit comments regarding this proposal and comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Anna Guido, Clearance Officer, REE, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 8210, Washington, DC 20410-5000; email PaperworkReductionActOffice@hud.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, REE, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 7th Street SW, Room 8210, Washington, DC 20410; email Colette.Pollard@hud.gov or telephone (202) 402-3400. This is not a toll-free number. HUD welcomes and is prepared to receive calls from individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals with speech or communication disabilities. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs>.

Copies of available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Pollard.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that HUD is seeking approval from OMB for the information collection described in Section A.

The Federal Register notice that solicited public comment on the information collection for a period of 60 days was published March 27, 2024 at 89 FR 21265.

A. Overview of Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Implementation of the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 (HOPA).

OMB Control Number: 2529-0046.

Type of Request: Proposed extension, without change, of a currently approved information collection requirement.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: The Fair Housing Act [42 U.S.C.3601 *et seq.*], prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, occupancy, advertising, insuring, or financing of residential dwellings based on *familial status* (individuals living in households with one or more children under 18 years of age). However, under § 3607(b)(2) of the Act, Congress exempted three (3) categories of "housing for older persons" from liability for familial status discrimination: (1) housing provided under any State or Federal program which the Secretary of HUD determines is "specifically designed and operated to assist elderly persons (as defined in the State or Federal program)"; (2) housing "intended for, and solely occupied by persons 62 years of age or older"; and (3) housing "intended and operated for occupancy by at least one person 55 years of age or older per unit [“55 or older” housing]." In December 1995, Congress passed the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 (HOPA) [Pub. L. 104-76, 109 Stat. 787] as an amendment to the Fair Housing Act. The HOPA modified the "55 or older" housing exemption provided under section 3607(b)(2)(C) of the Fair Housing Act by eliminating the requirement that a housing provider must offer "significant facilities and services specifically designed to meet the physical or social needs of older persons." In order to qualify for the HOPA exemption, a housing community or facility must meet each of the following criteria: (1) *at least 80 percent of the occupied units* in the community or facility must be occupied by at least one person who is 55 years of age or older; (2) the housing provider must publish and adhere to policies and procedures that demonstrate the *intent*

to operate housing for persons 55 years of age or older; and (3) the housing provider must demonstrate compliance with “rules issued by the Secretary for verification of occupancy, which shall provide for [age] verification by reliable surveys and affidavits.”

The HOPA did not significantly increase the record-keeping burden for the “55 or older” housing exemption. It describes in greater detail the documentary evidence which HUD will consider when determining, during a familial status discrimination complaint investigation, whether or not a housing facility or community qualified for the “55 or older” housing exemption as of the date on which the alleged Fair Housing Act violation occurred.

The HOPA information collection requirements are necessary to establish a housing provider’s eligibility to claim the “55 or older” housing exemption as an affirmative defense to a familial status discrimination complaint filed with HUD under the Fair Housing Act. The information will be collected in the normal course of business in connection with the sale, rental, or occupancy of dwelling units situated in qualified senior housing facilities or communities. The HOPA’s requirement that a housing provider must demonstrate the intent to operate a “55 or older” housing community or facility by publishing, and consistently enforcing, age verification rules, policies and procedures for current and prospective occupants reflects the usual and customary practice of the senior housing industry. Under the HOPA, a “55 or older” housing provider should conduct an initial occupancy survey of the housing community or facility to verify compliance with the HOPA’s “80 percent occupancy” requirement and should maintain such compliance by periodically reviewing and updating existing age verification records for each occupied dwelling unit at least once

every two years. The creation and maintenance of such occupancy/age verification records should occur in the normal course of individual sale or rental housing transactions and should require minimal preparation time. Further, a senior housing provider’s operating rules, policies and procedures are not privileged or confidential in nature, because such information must be disclosed to current and prospective residents, and to residential real estate professionals.

The HOPA exemption also requires that a summary of the occupancy survey results must be made available for public inspection. This summary need not contain confidential information about individual residents; it may simply indicate the total number of dwelling units that are actually occupied by persons 55 years of age or older. While the supporting age verification records may contain confidential information about individual occupants, such information would be protected from disclosure unless the housing provider claims the “55 or older” housing exemption as an affirmative defense to a jurisdictional familial status discrimination complaint filed with HUD under the Fair Housing Act. HUD’s Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity will only require a housing provider to disclose such confidential information to HUD if and when HUD investigates a jurisdictional familial status discrimination complaint filed against the housing provider under the Fair Housing Act, and if and when the housing provider claims the “55 or older” housing exemption as an affirmative defense to the complaint.

Agency form number(s), if applicable: None.

Members of affected public: The HOPA requires that small businesses and other small entities that operate housing intended for occupancy by persons 55 years of age or older must routinely collect and update reliable age

verification information necessary to meet the eligibility criteria for the HOPA exemption. The record keeping requirements are the responsibility of the housing provider that seeks to qualify for the HOPA exemption.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection, including the number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: Housing providers claiming eligibility for the HOPA’s “55 or older” housing exemption must demonstrate ongoing compliance with the HOPA exemption requirements. The HOPA does not authorize HUD to require submission of this information by individual housing providers as a means of certifying that their housing communities or facilities qualify for the exemption. Further, since the HOPA has no mandatory registration requirement, HUD cannot ascertain the actual number of housing facilities and communities that are currently collecting this information with the intention of qualifying for the HOPA exemption. Accordingly, HUD has estimated that approximately 1,000 housing facilities or communities would seek to qualify for the HOPA exemption. HUD has estimated that the occupancy/age verification data would require routine updating with each new housing transaction within the facility or community, and that the number of such transactions per year might vary significantly depending on the size and nature of the facility or community. HUD also estimated the average number of housing transactions per year at ten (10) transactions per community. HUD concluded that the publication of policies and procedures is likely to be a one-time event, and in most cases will require no additional burden beyond what is done in the normal course of business. The estimated total annual burden hours are 5,500 hours [See Table below].

Type of collection activity	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Responses per annum	Burden hour per response	Annual burden hours	Hourly cost per response	Annual cost
One: Collect reliable age verification records for at least one occupant per dwelling unit to meet the HOPA’s minimum “80% occupancy” requirement.	1,000 (estimated 10,000 occupants).	1 (once per each housing transaction).	10,000	1	1,000	\$20.02	\$20.02
Two: Publication of & adherence to policies & procedures that demonstrate intent to operate “55 or older” housing.	1,000 (estimated 1,000 housing providers).	1 (one-time event for publication).	1,000	2	2,000	20.02	40,040
Three: Periodic updates of age verification records.	1,000 (estimated 1,000 housing providers).	1 (update occupancy records at least once every two years).	1,000	2.50	2,500	20.02	50,050
Total Burden Hours & Costs.	12,000	3	12,000	5,500	5,500	20.02	110,110

B. Solicitation of Public Comments

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed information collection in order to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of HUD's program functions; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of HUD's assessment of the paperwork burden that may result from the proposed information collection; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information which must be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on responders, including the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology (e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses). (5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions.

Authority: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended.

Colette Pollard,

*Department Reports Management Officer,
Office of Policy Development and Research,
Chief Data Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-6395-N-04]

Notice of Regulatory Waiver Requests Granted for the Fourth Quarter of Calendar Year 2023

AGENCY: Office of the General Counsel, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Section 106 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (the HUD Reform Act) requires HUD to publish quarterly **Federal Register** notices of all regulatory waivers that HUD has approved. Each notice covers the quarterly period since the previous **Federal Register** notice. The purpose of this notice is to comply with the requirements of section 106 of the HUD Reform Act. This notice contains a list of regulatory waivers granted by HUD during the period beginning on October 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information about this notice, contact Aaron Santa Anna, Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW, Room 10276, Washington, DC 20410-0500, telephone (202) 708-3055 (this is not a toll-free number). HUD welcomes and is prepared to receive calls from individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals with speech or communication disabilities. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs>.

For information concerning a particular waiver that was granted and for which public notice is provided in this document, contact the person whose name and address follow the description of the waiver granted in the accompanying list of waivers that have been granted in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2023.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 106 of the HUD Reform Act added a new section 7(q) to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(q)), which provides that:

1. Any waiver of a regulation must be in writing and must specify the grounds for approving the waiver;

2. Authority to approve a waiver of a regulation may be delegated by the Secretary only to an individual of Assistant Secretary or equivalent rank, and the person to whom authority to waive is delegated must also have authority to issue the particular regulation to be waived;

3. Not less than quarterly, the Secretary must notify the public of all waivers of regulations that HUD has approved, by publishing a notice in the **Federal Register**. These notices (each covering the period since the most recent previous notification) shall:

- a. Identify the project, activity, or undertaking involved;
- b. Describe the nature of the provision waived and the designation of the provision;
- c. Indicate the name and title of the person who granted the waiver request;
- d. Describe briefly the grounds for approval of the request; and
- e. State how additional information about a particular waiver may be obtained.

Section 106 of the HUD Reform Act also contains requirements applicable to waivers of HUD handbook provisions that are not relevant to the purpose of this notice.

This notice follows procedures provided in HUD's Statement of Policy on Waiver of Regulations and Directives issued on April 22, 1991 (56 FR 16337). In accordance with those procedures and with the requirements of section 106 of the HUD Reform Act, waivers of regulations are granted by the Assistant Secretary with jurisdiction over the regulations for which a waiver was requested. In those cases in which a General Deputy Assistant Secretary granted the waiver, the General Deputy Assistant Secretary was serving in the absence of the Assistant Secretary in accordance with the office's Order of Succession.

This notice covers waivers of regulations granted by HUD from October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. For ease of reference, the waivers granted by HUD are listed by HUD program office (for example, the Office of Community Planning and Development, the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, the Office of Housing, and the Office of Public and Indian Housing, etc.). Within each program office grouping, the waivers are listed sequentially by the regulatory section of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) that is being waived. For example, a waiver of a provision in 24 CFR part 58 would be listed before a waiver of a provision in 24 CFR part 570.

Where more than one regulatory provision is involved in the grant of a particular waiver request, the action is listed under the section number of the first regulatory requirement that appears in 24 CFR and that is being waived. For example, a waiver of both § 58.73 and § 58.74 would appear sequentially in the listing under § 58.73.

Waiver of regulations that involve the same initial regulatory citation are in time sequence beginning with the earliest-dated regulatory waiver.

Additionally, this notice includes waivers made pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), not previously published in the **Federal Register**. These waivers are listed separately from other individual waivers within each program office grouping, as CARES Act waivers broadly covered all affected parties rather than individual, case-by-case situations. The lists include additional Memoranda and Notices issued regarding broad CARES Act waivers provided by HUD since the enactment of the Act on March 27, 2020. In addition, the lists provide a short, two- or three-line description of each memo or notice, identifying the specific