

condition precedent to enforcing any claim under the qualified contract guarantee, utilize the entire period, for which there are funds available in escrow for payment of rentals, in reasonable diligent efforts to eliminate or minimize losses, by releasing the property covered by the qualified contract to another qualified lessee, and no claim shall be made or paid under the guarantee until such effort has been made and such escrow funds have been exhausted;

(3) that any guarantor of the qualified contract will become a successor of the lessor for the purpose of collecting from a lessee in default rentals which are in arrears and with respect to which the lessor has received payment under a guarantee made pursuant to this section; and

(4) such other provisions, not inconsistent with the purposes of this section as the Administrator may in his discretion require.

**(e) Assignment of guarantee**

Any guarantee issued under this section may be assigned with the permission of the Administration by the person to whom the payments under qualified contracts are due.

**(f) Application of section 693 of this title**

Section 693 of this title shall apply to the administration of this section.

(Pub. L. 85-699, title IV, §404, as added Pub. L. 94-305, title I, §102, June 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 663; amended Pub. L. 98-473, title I, §115, Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 1967.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 98-473, §115(1), (2), substituted “shall be issued” for “may be issued” and inserted “, and the Administration is expressly prohibited from denying such guarantee due to the property being so acquired”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-473, §115(3), substituted “be less than 1 per centum or more than 3½ per centum” for “exceed 3½ per centum”.

**§ 694-2. Revolving fund for qualified contract guarantees; investment of idle funds**

There is created within the Treasury a separate fund for guarantees which shall be available to the Administrator without fiscal year limitations as a revolving fund for the purpose of section 694-1 of this title. All amounts received by the Administrator, including any moneys, property, or assets derived by him from his operations in connection with section 694-1 of this title shall be deposited in the fund. All expenses and payments, excluding administrative expenses, pursuant to operations of the Administrator under section 694-1 of this title shall be paid from the fund. Moneys in the fund not needed for the payment of current operating expenses or for the payment of claims arising under this part may be invested in bonds or other obligations of, or bonds or other obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the United States; except that moneys provided as capital for the fund shall not be so invested.

(Pub. L. 85-699, title IV, §405, as added Pub. L. 94-305, title I, §102, June 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 665;

amended Pub. L. 95-89, title I, §104, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 556; Pub. L. 96-302, title I, §112, July 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 837.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1980—Pub. L. 96-302 inserted investment of idle funds provision.

1977—Pub. L. 95-89 prohibited payment of administrative expenses from the fund and deleted provisions which authorized: a \$15,000,000 appropriation of capital for the fund; payment during the fiscal year into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts, from the fund, of interest on the cumulative amount of appropriations available as capital to the fund less the average undisbursed cash balance in the fund during the year; and investment of noncapital moneys, when not needed for payment of current operating expenses or claims arising under section 694-2 of this title, in Federal bonds or obligations or bonds or obligations guaranteed by the United States as to principal and interest.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-302 effective Oct. 1, 1980, see section 507 of Pub. L. 96-302, set out as a note under section 631 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1977 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-89 effective Oct. 1, 1977, see section 106 of Pub. L. 95-89, set out as a note under section 633 of this title.

PART B—SURETY BOND GUARANTEES

**§ 694a. Definitions**

As used in this part—

(1) The term “bid bond” means a bond conditioned upon the bidder on a contract entering into the contract, if he receives the award thereof, and furnishing the prescribed payment bond and performance bond.

(2) The term “payment bond” means a bond conditioned upon the payment by the principal of money to persons under contract with him.

(3) The term “performance bond” means a bond conditioned upon the completion by the principal of a contract in accordance with its terms.

(4) The term “surety” means the person who (A) under the terms of a bid bond, undertakes to pay a sum of money to the obligee in the event the principal breaches the conditions of the bond, (B) under the terms of a performance bond, undertakes to incur the cost of fulfilling the terms of a contract in the event the principal breaches the conditions of the contract, (C) under the terms of a payment bond, undertakes to make payment to all persons supplying labor and material in the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract if the principal fails to make prompt payment, or (D) is an agent, independent agent, underwriter, or any other company or individual empowered to act on behalf of such person.

(5) The term “obligee” means (A) in the case of a bid bond, the person requesting bids for the performance of a contract, or (B) in the case of a payment bond or performance bond, the person who has contracted with a principal for the completion of the contract and to whom the obliga-

tion of the surety runs in the event of a breach by the principal of the conditions of a payment bond or performance bond.

(6) The term “principal” means (A) in the case of a bid bond, a person bidding for the award of a contract, or (B) the person primarily liable to complete a contract for the obligee, or to make payments to other persons in respect of such contract, and for whose performance of his obligation the surety is bound under the terms of a payment or performance bond. A principal may be a prime contractor or a subcontractor.

(7) The term “prime contractor” means the person with whom the obligee has contracted to perform the contract.

(8) The term “subcontractor” means a person who has contracted with a prime contractor or with another subcontractor to perform a contract.

(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any rule, regulation, or order of the Administration, for purpose of sections 694a, 694b, and 694c of this title the term “small business concern” means a business concern that meets the size standard for the primary industry in which such business concern, and the affiliates of such business concern, is engaged, as determined by the Administrator in accordance with the North American Industry Classification System.

(Pub. L. 85-699, title IV, §410, as added Pub. L. 91-609, title IX, §911(a)(4), Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1812; amended Pub. L. 95-507, title I, §110, Oct. 24, 1978, 92 Stat. 1758; Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title V, §508(c), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 158; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title XVI, §1695(c), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2090.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2013—Par. (9). Pub. L. 112-239 added par. (9).

2009—Par. (9). Pub. L. 111-5, §508(c), (f), temporarily added par. (9) which read as follows: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any rule, regulation, or order of the Administration, for purposes of sections 694a, 694b, and 694c of this title the term “small business concern” means a business concern that meets the size standard for the primary industry in which such business concern, and the affiliates of such business concern, is engaged, as determined by the Administrator in accordance with the North American Industry Classification System.” See Termination Date of 2009 Amendment note below.

1978—Par. (4)(D). Pub. L. 95-507 added cl. (D).

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### TERMINATION DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title V, §508(f), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 159, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 694b of this title] shall remain in effect until September 30, 2010.”

##### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS; AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Section 911(b) of Pub. L. 91-609 authorized the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to take such steps and carry out such activities as he determined to be necessary or desirable to provide, either directly or by contract or other arrangement, technical assistance to any contractor or subcontractor for whom a bid, payment, or performance bond is guaranteed under part B of title IV of the Small Business Investment Act of

1958 [this part] in connection with any construction contract, in order to assist such contractor or subcontractor in obtaining or carrying out such contract, and authorized to be appropriated for each of the first three fiscal years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 31, 1970] such sums, not to exceed \$1,500,000, as were necessary to enable the Secretary to carry out his functions under paragraph (1).

#### § 694b. Surety bond guarantees

##### (a) Authority of Administration to guarantee surety against loss from principal's breach of bond

(1)(A) The Administration may, upon such terms and conditions as it may prescribe, guarantee and enter into commitments to guarantee any surety against loss resulting from a breach of the terms of a bid bond, payment bond, performance bond, or bonds ancillary thereto, by a principal on any total work order or contract amount at the time of bond execution that does not exceed \$6,500,000, as adjusted for inflation in accordance with section 1908 of title 41.

(B) The Administrator may guarantee a surety under subparagraph (A) for a total work order or contract amount that does not exceed \$10,000,000, if a contracting officer of a Federal agency certifies that such a guarantee is necessary.

(2) The terms and conditions of said guarantees and commitments may vary from surety to surety on the basis of the Administration's experience with the particular surety.

(3) The Administration may authorize any surety, without further administration approval, to issue, monitor, and service such bonds subject to the Administration's guarantee.

(4) No such guarantee may be issued, unless—

(A) the person who would be principal under the bond is a small business concern;

(B) the bond is required in order for such person to bid on a contract, or to serve as a prime contractor or subcontractor thereon;

(C) such person is not able to obtain such bond on reasonable terms and conditions without a guarantee under this section; and

(D) there is a reasonable expectation that such principal will perform the covenants and conditions of the contract with respect to which such bond is required, and the terms and conditions of such bond are reasonable in the light of the risks involved and the extent of the surety's participation.

(5)(A) The Administration shall promptly act upon an application from a surety to participate in the Preferred Surety Bond Guarantee Program, authorized by paragraph (3), in accordance with criteria and procedures established in regulations pursuant to subsection (d).

(B) The Administration is authorized to reduce the allotment of bond guarantee authority or terminate the participation of a surety in the Preferred Surety Bond Guarantee Program based on the rate of participation of such surety during the 4 most recent fiscal year quarters compared to the median rate of participation by the other sureties in the program.

##### (b) Indemnification of surety against loss from avoiding breach

Subject to the provisions of this section, in connection with the issuance by the Administra-