



APPLYING FOR HUD

HOUSING ASSISTANCE?

**THINK ABOUT THIS...
IS FRAUD WORTH IT?**

Do You Realize...

If you commit fraud to obtain assisted housing from HUD, you could be:

- Evicted from your apartment or house.
- Required to repay all paid or overpaid assistance you received.
- Fined up to \$10,000.
- Imprisoned for up to five years.
- Prohibited from receiving future assistance.
- Subject to State and local government penalties.

Do You Know...?

You are committing fraud if you sign a form knowing that you provided false or misleading information.

The information you provide on housing assistance application and recertification forms will be checked. The local housing agency, HUD, or the Office of Inspector General will check the income and asset information you provide with other Federal, State, or local governments and with private agencies. Certifying false information is fraud.

Actions Constituting Fraud and Related Criminal Activities

- Bribery or kickbacks
- False Claims or Bid Rigging
- Theft, embezzlement or other misapplication of funds or assets
- Impropriety with respect to reporting financial transactions
- profiting from Insider Knowledge
- Destruction or concealment of records, income and/or assets

Other Irregularities

This Section covers allegations of personal improprieties or other irregularities not constituting fraud, such as drug abuse or distribution, vandalism, littering, disturbing the peace, or other such public nuisances, or criminal activity. These issues are to be solved by program management.

Ask Questions

If you don't understand something on the application or recertification forms, always ask questions. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Watch Out for Housing Assistance Scams!

- Don't pay money to have someone fill out housing assistance application and certification forms for you.
- Don't pay money to move up on a waiting list.

Report Fraud

If you know of anyone who provided false information on a HUD housing assistance application or recertification or if anyone tells you to provide false information, report that person to the HUD Office of Inspector General Hotline. You can call the Hotline toll-free Monday through Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, at 1-800-347-3735. You can fax information to (202) 708-4829 or e-mail it to Hotline@hudoig.gov. You can write the Hotline at: HUD OIG Hotline, GFI 451 7th Street, SW Washington, DC 20410