

Things You Should Know

Don't risk your chances for Federally Assisted housing by providing false, incomplete, or inaccurate information on your application and re-certification forms.

Purpose	This is to inform you that there is certain information you must provide when applying for Assisted housing. There are penalties that apply if you knowingly omit information or give false information.
Penalties for Committing Fraud	<p>The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) places high priority on preventing fraud. If your application or re-certification forms contain false or incomplete information, you may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Evicted from your apartment or houseRequired to repay all overpaid rental assistance you receivedFined up to \$10,000Imprisoned for up to five (5) years; and/orProhibited from receiving future assistance <p>Your state and local governments may have other laws and penalties as well.</p>
Asking Questions	When you sit down with the person who fills out your application, you should know what is expected of you. If you do not understand something, say so. That person can answer your question(s) or find out what the answer is.
Completing Application	<p>When you give your answers to application questions, you must include the following information:</p> <p>Income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">All sources of money you and any member of your family receive (wages, welfare payments, alimony, social security, pensions, etc.)Any money you receive on behalf of your children (child support, social security for children, etc.)Income from assets (interest from savings account, credit union, or certificate of deposit; dividends from stocks, etc.)Earnings from second job or part time jobAny anticipated income (such as bonuses or pay raise you expect to receive)
Assets	All bank accounts, savings bonds, certificates of deposit, stocks, real estate, etc. that are owed by you and any adult member of your family.
Family/ Household Members	Any business or asset you sold in the last two (2) years for less than its full value such as your home to your children.
Signing the Application	<p>The names of all of the people (adults and children) who will actually be living with you, whether or not they are related to you.</p> <p>Do not sign any form unless you have read it, understand it and are sure everything is complete and accurate.</p>
Re-certification	<p>When you sign your application and certification forms, you are claiming that they are complete to the best of your knowledge and belief. You are committing fraud if you sign a form knowing that it contains false or misleading information.</p> <p>You must provide updated information at least once a year. Some programs require that you report any changes in income or family/household members.</p> <p>Any family/household member who has moved in or out.</p> <p>All assets that you or your family/household members own and any asset that was sold in the last two (2) years for less than its true value.</p>
Beware of Fraud	<p>You should be aware of the following fraud schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not pay any money to file an applicationDo not pay any money to move up on the waiting listDo not pay for anything not covered by your leaseGet receipt for any moneyGet written explanation if you are required to pay any money other than rent (such as maintenance charges)
Reporting	If you are aware of anyone who has falsified an application, or if anyone tries to persuade you to make false statements, report them to the manager of your project PHA. If you can not report to the manager, call the local HUD office or the HUD Hotline on (202) 472-4200. This is not a toll free number. You can also write to the HUD Hotline, Room 8254, 451 Seventh Street, S. W. Washington, D.C.