

Subject, City, State	Effective Date
Dannels, Douglas Gale, Duuglasville, GA	05/04/95
Davis-Wiese, Jacqueline S, Tempe, AZ	05/04/95
Deweese, Randel K, Los Gatos, CA	05/04/95
Dinofer, Jeffrey S, Miami, FL	05/04/95
Etienne, Ivan Joseph, Miami, FL	05/04/95
Fair, Benny Jr, Fort Wayne, IN	05/04/95
Fine, Mitchell L, Delray Beach, FL	05/04/95
Foxworth, Raymond, Jackson, MS	05/04/95
Fuller, Martin C, Chicago, IL	05/04/95
Gelbard, Steven D, Coral Springs, FL	05/09/95
Haggard, Joe R, Mapleton, UT	05/04/95
Holyway, Craig T, Detroit, MI	05/04/95
Howell, Richard W, Oklahoma City, OK	05/09/95
Hudson, Donald L, St Johns, MI	05/04/95
Jasper, Charles S, San Rafael, CA	05/04/95
Lanzarotta, Suzette T, Grass Valley, CA	05/04/95
Lee, John H, Port Arthur, TX	05/09/95
Luu, Kham Ngoc, Houston, TX	05/09/95
Marek, Michael L, Houston, TX	05/09/95
McKenzie, Janell T, Vincent, AL	05/04/95
McNair, Lawrence, Gulfport, MS	05/04/95
Melville, Carl J, Crestline, CA	05/04/95
Monahan, Michael L, Carlsbad, CA	05/04/95
Monbarren, John W, Lakewood, OH	05/04/95
Nugent, Richard E, Las Vegas, NV	05/04/95
Olson, Robert M III, Sierra Madre, CA	05/04/95
Otto, David E, Willoughby, OH	05/04/95
Pearman, Darrell W, Oklahoma City, OK	05/09/95
Pickett, Jan W, Colony, TX	05/09/95
Platt, Caroline M, Portland, OR	05/04/95
Pryor, Cornelius M III, Los Angeles, CA	05/04/95
Reischman, Grace A, Charlotte, NC	05/04/95
Reischman, Timothy J, Charlotte, NC	05/04/95
Rivera, Nelson E, Hartford, CT	05/04/95
Saunders, Robert D, Kingsport, TN	05/04/95
Scanlon, Mark J, Cincinnati, OH	05/04/95
Sensenig, Barry W, Boulder, CO	05/04/95
Seyfarth, Huey Augusta Jr, Baton Rouge, LA	05/09/95
Shanefelter, Charles D III, Saratoga, CA	05/04/95
Spogen, Frederick C III, Cocoa Beach, FL	05/04/95
Stewart, Barry A, Knoxville, TN	05/04/95
Stiggers, Donald, Cleveland, OH	05/04/95
Tessmer, Jon F, Brownwood, TX	05/09/95
Thornton, James G, Nevada City, CA	05/04/95
Tucker, James A, Arlington, TX	05/09/95
Unruh, Steve L, Baytown, TX	05/09/95
Ward, William F III, Norristown, PA	05/09/95
Werrell, Sandra M, Mt Laurel, NJ	05/07/95
Whitaker, Gary W, San Antonio, TX	05/09/95
White, Jeffrey Richard, Chattaroy, WA	05/04/95
Wiest, Gregory J, Baton Rouge, LA	05/09/95
Wiggins, William H III, Dunwoody, GA	05/04/95
Williams, Joanne, Sherman Oaks, CA	05/04/95

Section 1128Aa

Evans, Harry D, Gilmer, TX	02/23/95
Home Bound Eyecare, Gilmer, TX	02/23/95

Dated: May 15, 1995.

William M. Libercci,

Director, Health Care Administrative Sanctions, Office of Civil Fraud and Administrative Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 95-12689 Filed 5-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. N-95-1409; FR-2383-N-06]

Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The information collection requirement described below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for expedited review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject requirements.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding

this proposal. Comments must be received within ten (10) working days from the date of this Notice. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and should be sent to: Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., OMB Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kay F. Weaver, Reports Management Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410, telephone No. (202) 708-0050. This is not a toll-free number. Copies of the proposed forms and other available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Weaver.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Notice informs the public that the Department of Housing and Urban Development has submitted to OMB, for expedited processing, an information collection package with respect to Restrictions on Assistance to Noncitizens final rule, published on March 20, 1995.

The March 20, 1995 final rule implements Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980. This statute prohibits the Department from making financial

assistance available to persons other than United States citizens, nationals, or certain categories of eligible noncitizens in certain HUD programs.

The Department has submitted the information collection package, as described below, to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35):

- (1) The title of the information collection proposal;
- (2) the office of the agency to collect the information;
- (3) the description of the need for the information and its use;
- (4) the agency form number, if applicable;
- (5) what members of the public will be affected by the information collection requirements;
- (6) how frequently information submission will be required;
- (7) an estimate of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information submission including numbers of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response;
- (8) whether the requirements reflect a new or an extension, reinstatement, or revision of an information collection requirement; and
- (9) the names and telephone numbers of an agency official familiar with the

proposal and of the OMB Desk Officer for the Department.

Authority: Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3507; Section 7(d) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

Dated: May 8, 1995.

Nelson A. Diaz,
General Counsel.

Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB

Proposal: Restrictions on Assistance to Noncitizens (FR-2383).

Office: Secretary.

Description of the Need For The Information and Its Proposed Use: This rule implements Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980, as amended. Section 214 prohibits HUD from making housing assistance under certain covered programs available to persons who are not U.S. citizens, nationals, or eligible noncitizens under the categories specified in the statute.

Form Number: None.

Respondents: Individuals or Households, Business or Other For-Profit, and State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Reporting Burden:

	No. of respondents	×	Frequency of response	×	hours per response	=	Burden hours
Information collection	3,030,547		varies		varies		405,458

Total Estimated Burden Hours:
405,458.

Status: New.

Contract: Bruce Vincent (PIH), HUD, (202) 708-0744; Linda Flister (Housing), HUD, (202) 708-2300; Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., OMB, (202) 395-7316.

Dated: May 8, 1995.

Supporting Statement for FR-2383—Restrictions and Assistance to Noncitizens

A. Justification

1. This request for OMB approval seeks clearance for information collections related to the implementation of Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1436a), that prohibits the Secretary of HUD from making financial assistance available for the benefit of any person, who is not a U.S. citizen, national, or who is not a noncitizen of legal immigration status under one of the six categories of legal immigrant status specified in the statute. (Attachment #1 is a copy of Section 214.)

Implementation of Section 214 through Issuance of Regulations. The March 20, 1995, final rule implements Section 214 by adding certain regulatory provisions to the HUD existing regulations, listed below.

(Attachment #2 is a copy of the March 20, 1995 final rule.)

- 24 CFR part 200, 215 (the Rent Supplement Program);
- 24 CFR part 200, 235 (Section 235 Program—Sec. 235 of the National Housing Act);
- 24 CFR part 200, 236 (Section 236 Program—Sec. 236 of the National Housing Act);
- 24 CFR part 812 (Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program);
- 24 CFR part 950 (Indian Housing Program) [Note: HUD's Indian Housing program was moved from part 905 to 950];
- 24 CFR part 912 (Public Housing Program);
- Applicable conforming amendments (for purposes of cross-referencing the Section 214 requirements contained in the above listed parts) were made to several other parts: 247, 850, 880, 881, 882, 883, 883, 886, 887, 900, 904 and 960.

The Information Collection Requirements in the March 20, 1995 final rule. The majority of the information collection requirements contained in the March 20, 1995 final rule flow directly from the statute. The statute specifies a declaration shall be submitted by each individual family member, and that alien registration documentation must be submitted for those individuals that indicate

legal immigration status. Additionally, the statute provides for certain procedures such as an INS appeal process, a hearing process provided by the owner or housing authority that necessitate appropriate notices to the individual advising of the availability of processes. The statute also provides for certain actions to occur if immigration status is not confirmed (i.e., denial or termination of assistance) which also, for due process considerations, necessitate certain notices to provide fair notice of the possibility of these occurrences.

2. The following provides information on the frequency of the submission of information collection requirements.

- *Notice to applicants and tenants of requirements of Section 214.* The rule provides that notification of the requirements of Section 214 must be given to each applicant at the time of application for assistance, and to each tenant at the time of, and together with, any notice of regular reexamination of tenant income, but not later than one year following the effective date of the final rule.

- The notice is intended to facilitate the implementation of Section 214 and to ensure that applicants are not passed over for admission because they did not have sufficient knowledge of this new admission procedure and sufficient time to obtain

evidence of their eligible immigration status, when applicable.

- For applicants whose applications are pending, the final rule provides that notification must be given as soon as possible, but leaves precise timing to the discretion of the housing authority or project owner.

- Again, for existing tenants, the rule provides that notice be given when the housing authority or project owner gives notice of its up-coming reexamination of income. Generally, housing authorities and project owners provide notice to tenants that a reexamination is about to occur.

- Accordingly, no new times are established for notification of the requirements of Section 214 that are different from those periods when the housing authority or project owner would otherwise provide notice to the applicant or tenant or certain important information. (See §§ 200.183(f)(1), 812.6(f)(1), 912.6(f)(1) and 950.310(g)(1).)

- The information that needs to be included in the notice is described in the regulation. (See §§ 200.183(f)(2), 812.6(f)(2), 912.6(f)(2), and 950.310(g)(2).) However, no specific form is required, but model notices will be provided.

- *Declaration of citizenship or eligible immigration status.* Section 214(d)(1)(A) requires that applicants and tenants for HUD housing assistance programs covered by Section 214 must submit a declaration signed under penalty of perjury, in which individual indicates that he or she is a citizen or noncitizen with eligible immigration status. (See §§ 200.183(c), 812.6(c), 912.6(c), and 950.310(e)(3).)

- Every member of an applicant or tenant family must submit this document. An adult member of the family must execute this form on behalf of any children.

- The declaration need only be executed and submitted one time.

- No specific form of declaration is prescribed, but model language will be made available. The declaration may be incorporated as part of the application for housing assistance. (See §§ 200.183(c)(2), 812.6(c)(2), 912.6(c)(2), and 950.310(e)(3).)

- *No declaration necessary if individual is not a citizen or does not of eligible immigration status.* The March 20, 1995 final rule provides if one or more members of a family elect not to contend that they have eligible immigration status if other members of the family establish their citizenship or eligible immigration status. (see §§ 200.183(e), 812.6(e), 912.6(e), and 950.310(f).)

- Section 214(c)(1)(A) provides that for existing tenants "continued assistance" is available if the head of the household or spouse is a U.S. citizen, national, or has eligible immigration status (as specified in Section 214). The regulatory provision permitting individuals to elect not to declare in certain situations should reduce the information collection requirements and processing requirements.

- *Verification consent form.* Section 214(d)(3) requires that those individuals who declare eligible immigration status, must have their status verified with the INS.

Accordingly, so that these individuals will know that verification will be undertaken, the rule provides for a verification consent form to be signed by each noncitizen who declares eligible immigration status. (See §§ 200.183(d), 812.6(d), 912.6(d), 950.310(e)(4).) The consent form puts the family member on notice that his immigration status will be confirmed with INS.

Only members of a family who declares eligible immigration status must execute the verification consent form.

No specific form is prescribed, but model language will be made available.

- *Proof of age.* Section 214(d)(2)(A) provides that for noncitizens who are 62 years of age or older and receiving assistance under a Section 214 covered program on June 19, 1995 [the effective date of the final rule], in addition to a declaration the 62-year or older noncitizen may submit proof of age in lieu of submission of documents that evidence immigration status. (See §§ 200.813(b)(92)(ii), 812.6(b)(2)(ii), 912.6(b)(2)(ii), and 950.310(e)(2)(ii)(B).)

Only members of families who are existing tenants and who declare eligible immigration status and are 62 years of age or older must submit proof of age.

Types of documents that constitute proof of age are not prescribed in the rule. Since there is no prescribed list of acceptable documentation, it is anticipated that this burden should be minimal, and less burdensome for elderly persons than submission of immigration documents.

- *Evidence of immigration status.* Section 214 (d)(2)(A) requires that persons who declare that they are noncitizens with eligible immigration status must submit acceptable evidence of eligible immigration status. In accordance with INS requirements, the rule specifies which documents constitute acceptable evidence of immigration status. (See §§ 200.184, 812.7, 912.7, 950.310 (k)(2).)

Only individuals who declare eligible immigration status (and are not existing tenants who are 62 years of age or older) must submit evidence of immigration status.

Evidence of immigration status need only be submitted one time, unless the individual's status changes, and the individual wants the housing authority's or project owner's record to reflect the changed immigration status.

The applicant or tenant noncitizen must submit the original documents, but they will be photocopied and returned by the project owner or housing authority. Note these are documents that already should be in the possession of the individual, and therefore there should be minimal burden associated with this requirement.

- *One-time submission of immigration documents.* For each family member, evidence of immigration status is required to be submitted only one time during continuously assisted occupancy under any covered program.

- *Notice extending time to submit documentation, or denying extended time to submit documentation.* Section 214(d)(4)(A) requires that individuals must be given a reasonable opportunity to submit documentation if they submit the declaration

required by Section 214. The rule provides consistent with Section 214 that project owners and housing authorities grant a reasonable extension. The period is to be determined by the project owner or housing authority, and must be definite in time (i.e., cannot be for an indefinite period). To avoid any difference of opinion concerning if in fact an extension was granted, the extension must be in writing. (See §§ 200.183(h), 812.6(h), 912.6(h) and 950.310(i).)

No specific form of notice is prescribed.

- *Primary verification through SAVE system.* The housing authority and project owner must verify with INS the immigration status of the applicant or tenant who declares eligible immigration status. This is done through means of an automated system that provides access to alien names, file an admission numbers (generally through a computer or touch tone telephone). Immigration status will be verified at the time of application for applicants, and at the time of the first annual reexamination for existing tenants. The time involved in making the primary verification is anticipated to be minimal.

- *Secondary verification through manual search.* If the primary verification fails to confirm eligible immigration status, then the housing authority or project owner requests the INS to conduct a manual search.

- *Notice when secondary verification fails to confirm immigration status.* If secondary verification (the manual search that follows the automated primary verification which fails to confirm immigration status) fails to confirm immigration status, the housing authority or project owner must issue a notice to the family advising that immigration status was not confirmed by INS records. (See §§ 200.185(c)(3), 812.8(c)(3), 912.8(c)(3), and 950.310(1)(3)(iii).)

No specific form or notice is prescribed.

Note that the notice required under these regulatory sections is the same as that required under the provisions described in the following paragraph 8 in the supporting statement.

- *Notice of denial or termination of assistance.* If the family fails to produce the immigration documents within a reasonable period, including any extension thereof, or if the immigration status is not concerned, the housing authority and project owner must issue a notice to the family that puts them on notice of the possibility of denial or termination of assistance, and advises them of their rights and responsibilities. (See §§ 200.186(d), 812.9(d), 912.9(d) and 950.310(m)(4).)

The information to be included in the notice is set forth in the rule, but no specific form of notice is prescribed.

- *Temporary deferral of termination of assistance—notification requirements connected with deferral of termination of assistance.* Section 214(c)(1)(B) provides that a housing authority or project owner may defer termination of financial assistance if necessary to permit the orderly transition of the family (that is determined ineligible under Section 214 for HUD financial assistance) to other affordable housing. The deferral may be up to a period for three years, and is available in increments of six month

periods. Section 214(c)(1)(B) requires that "at the beginning of each deferral period," the housing authority or project owner shall inform the family of their ineligibility for financial assistance and offer assistance in finding other affordable housing.

The notification required by Section 214(c)(1)(B) and the ways in which assistance may be offered (also required by Section

214(c)(1)(B) reflected in the rule (see §§ 200.187(c), 812.10(d), 912.10(d), and 950.310(r)(3).)

• *Proration of assistance.* For mixed families, the final rule provides for housing authorities and project owners to prorate assistance, that is determine rental subsidy on the basis of the number of family members that are eligible for assistance. The formula

for determining proration is set forth in the statute. (See §§ 200.188, 812.11, 912.11 and 950.310(s).)

Paperwork Matrix contained in August 25, 1994 Proposed Rule

The following duplicates the paperwork matrix that was contained in the published August 25, 1994 proposed rule.

TABULATION OF ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN NONCITIZENS RULE—RESTRICTION ON ASSISTANCE TO NONCITIZENS

Description of information collection	Section of 24 CFR affected	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Hours per responses	Total hours
Notification to tenants and applicants in Public & Indian Housing.	905.310(g) 912.6	3,300	700	2,310,000	.01	23,100
Denials, terminations, extensions, deferrals.	905.310(m)(4), (r) 912.9, 912.10.	3,300	19	62,700	.10 (6 minutes)	6,270
Notification and verification, denial, termination in section 8.	812.6, 812.9, 912.10 .	2,470,777	1	2,470,777	.05 (3 minutes)	123,539
Notification and verification, denial, termination in FHA subsidized.	200.183, 200.186 200.187, 235.13.	412,315	1	412,315	.05	20,616
Extensions	812.6(h), 200.183(h) ..	144,155	1	144,155	.16	23,065 (10 min.)
Recordkeeping—Public and Indian Housing.	905.310(q), 912.9(h) ..	3,300	761	2,511,300	.01	25,113
Recordkeeping in section 8	812.9(h)	2,470,777	1	2,470,777	.05	125,539
Recordkeeping in FHA subsidized.	200.186(h) 235.13	412,315	1	412,315	.05	20,616
Total Annual Burden	405,458

3. *Information Technology.* INS's Systematic Alien Verification Entitlement (SAVE) is an automatic system that should reduce the verification burden on responsible entities. This system can be operated by a touch-tone telephone or computer. This technology allows the housing authority or project owner to confirm the immigration status of an individual without the necessity for substantial paperwork.

4. *Minimizing Duplication.* While HUD has attempted to reduce the frequency of verifying immigration status (see the response to #2 above) by requiring only a one-time verification and by providing that verification of immigration status should occur when all other verifications occur, unfortunately, no other documents or system currently exist that will verify immigration status other than as set forth in the rule. This is the first time that housing authorities and project owners are being asked to verify immigration status.

5. *No Significant Impact on a Substantial Number of Small Entities.* As stated in both HUD's proposed rule (59 FR 43916) and final rule (60 FR 14823), HUD maintains that there is no significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

6. *Consequences if Information Collection is Not Conducted.* If the information is collected as required by the rule, the consequence will be that persons who are not here legally in the United States or who do not meet one of the six immigration categories specified in the status will receive scarce housing resources.

7. *Special Circumstances that Require Collection to be Made Inconsistent with 5 CFR 1320.6.* None.

8. *Consultation with Persons Outside the Agency.* No formal consultation was undertaken. INS provided HUD with copies of its SAVE manual that HUD followed in describing the SAVE verification systems in the rule. Through its proposed rule, HUD received comments from housing authorities and project owners on data collection, frequency of collection, etc. These comments were taken into consideration in the development of the final rule.

9. *Assurance of Confidentiality.* INS's SAVE system carries its own protective measures. HUD's rule provides that individuals asked to submit evidence of immigration status shall be advised that this evidence will only be released to INS for purposes of establishing eligibility for financial assistance and not for any other purpose. (See §§ 200.183(d)(3), 812.6(d)(3), 912.6(d)(3), 950.310(e)(3)(iii).)

10. *Questions of a Sensitive Nature.* The only information required of a sensitive nature is citizenship/immigration status. This information is required by statute. No other sensitive information is sought under this rule.

11. *Estimates of Annualized Costs to the Federal Government.* The statute provides that HUD is to pay each public housing agency or other entity an amount equal to 100 percent of the costs incurred in implementing and operating an immigration verification system. At this point in time, before implementation, it is difficult to estimate the cost. Because HUD believes that

the percentage of illegal aliens who have access to HUD housing assistance is minimal, and because of the technology involved (technology which can be operated through use of a touch tone telephone), the cost is not anticipated to be substantial. Any cost to respondent (housing authority or project manager) is assumed to be covered within the basic application, verification and reexamination processes of each of the programs covered by this rule.

12. *Provide Estimates of Burden Hours.* Please see matrix that is provided in the response to number 2.

13. *Amendments to Existing Collections.* Not applicable.

14. *Publication of Results.* Not applicable.

Summary. HUD believes that the administrative burden imposed by implementation of Section 214 will not be substantial. Although tracking of citizenship and noncitizenship status has not been undertaken to date, HUD believes that the number of noncitizens with ineligible immigration status residing in HUD public housing or assisted housing is low. HUD bases this belief on the fact that waiting for HUD housing assistance can take several years, the paperwork, to the completed to obtain HUD housing assistance is not insignificant, and citizenship and noncitizenship verification is already undertaken with other forms of Federal benefits (e.g., food stamps, Aid to families forms of Federal benefits (e.g., food stamps, Aid to Families with Dependent children), and frequently families for HUD housing assistance also will be recipients of other forms of benefits.

HUD believes that the burden on housing authorities and project owners will not be onerous for the reason set forth above, and also because documentation of citizenship or noncitizenship status is similar to and can be undertaken at the same time as determination of income eligibility. Additionally the house authority and project owner is not required to assist the family in obtaining evidence or to determine the validity of the evidence submitted.

For family members, the burden should be minimal because for citizens only a declaration is required. For noncitizens with eligible immigration status, such noncitizens should have with them their evidence of eligible immigration status.

[FR Doc. 95-12714 Filed 5-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-32-M

[Docket No. N-95-3918; FR-3907-N-01]

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner; FY 1995 Funding Availability for HUD—Approved Housing Counseling Agencies

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Fiscal Year 1995 notice of funding availability for HUD-approved housing counseling agencies.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 1995 funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for HUD-approved housing counseling agencies to provide housing counseling to homebuyers, homeowners, and renters. HUD anticipates that a maximum of \$9.5 million dollars will be available through this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). All housing counseling agencies approved by HUD as of the publication date of this NOFA may apply for FY 1995 funding. This includes: (1) Multi-State, regional, or national intermediary organizations, and (2) local housing counseling agencies that do not elect to affiliate with a HUD-approved intermediary organization.

This NOFA contains additional information on the purpose and background of the NOFA and funding levels available to local counseling agencies and intermediary organizations respectively; eligible activities and funding criteria; and application requirements and procedures.

DATES: Completed applications must be submitted no later than 4 p.m. E.S.T. on June 23, 1995. As further described below, any completed application must be physically *received* by this deadline date and hour at the appropriate local HUD office (for local applicants) or at

the Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Room 9282, Washington D.C. 20410 (for national, regional or multi-State applicants). In the interest of fairness to all applicants, late applications will be treated as ineligible for consideration. Applicants should take this requirement into account and make early submission of their applications to avoid loss of eligibility brought about by any unanticipated delays or other delivery-related problems. It is not sufficient for an application to be postmarked within the deadline. Applications sent by facsimile (FAX) will not be accepted. HUD will not waive this submission deadline for any reason.

ADDRESSES: For local housing counseling agency applicants: An original and two copies of the completed application must be submitted to the local HUD office having jurisdiction over the locality or area in which the proposed program is located. These copies should be sent to the attention of the Single Family Division Director, and the envelope should be clearly marked, "FY 1995 Counseling Application". A list of Single Family Division Directors and local HUD Offices appears at the end of this NOFA. Failure to submit an application to the correct office in accordance with the above procedures will result in disqualification of the application.

For national, regional and multi-State housing counseling agencies: An original and two copies of the completed application must be submitted to the person listed below in HUD Headquarters. The envelope should be clearly marked, "FY 1995 Counseling Application."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marion F. Connell, Program Advisor, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Room 9282, Washington D.C. 20410; telephone (202) 708-0614, extension 2315 (voice), or (202) 708-4594 (TDD number). (These are not toll-free numbers.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

The information collection requirements contained in this NOFA have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget, under section 3504(h) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and assigned OMB control number 2502-0261.

I. Purpose and Substantive Description

A. Authority and Purpose

HUD's housing counseling program is authorized under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701x). The purpose of the program is to promote and protect the interests of housing consumers participating in HUD and other housing programs, as well as to help protect the interests of HUD and mortgage lenders. The Housing Counseling program is generally governed by HUD Handbook 7610.1, REV-3, which is currently under revision.

The new version of the Handbook is expected to be in effect by the time funding under this NOFA is provided. The new Handbook will differ from the current Handbook in that national, regional, and multi-State housing counseling intermediaries may be approved as counseling agencies and reimbursement will no longer be made on a "counseling unit" basis. Procedures for the approval of housing counseling intermediaries were published on April 25, 1995 (60 FR 20360). New reimbursement procedures are explained in the grant application kit for this NOFA. To the extent that this NOFA and its accompanying application kit are inconsistent with the current Handbook, the Handbook is superseded.

Section 106 authorizes HUD to provide counseling and advice to tenants and homeowners with respect to property maintenance, financial management, and such other matters as may be appropriate to assist tenants and homeowners in improving their housing conditions and in meeting the responsibilities of tenancy and homeownership. In addition, HUD-approved counseling agencies are permitted and encouraged by HUD to conduct community outreach activities and provide counseling to individuals with the objective of increasing awareness of homeownership opportunities and improving access of low and moderate income households to sources of mortgage credit. HUD believes that this activity is key to the revitalization and stabilization of low income and minority neighborhoods. (See the recently published notice inviting the application by national, multi-State and regional organizations for housing counseling agency approval, described above.)

Under the housing counseling program, HUD contracts with qualified public or private nonprofit organizations to provide the services authorized by the statute. When Congress appropriates funds for this