

**HUD-9887/A Fact Sheet****Verification of Information Provided by Applicants and Tenants of Assisted Housing****What Verification Involves**

To receive housing assistance, applicants and tenants who are 18 and over must provide the Housing Owner with certain information specified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

To make sure that the assistance is used properly, Federal laws require that the information you provide be verified. This information is verified in two ways:

1. HUD and a Public Housing Agency (PHA) may verify the information you provide by checking with the records kept by certain public agencies (IRS, Social Security Administration, and the State agency that keeps wage and unemployment compensation claim information).

You give your consent to the release of this information by signing form HUD-9887.

Only HUD and the PHA can receive information authorized by this form.

2. The Owner must verify the information that is used to determine your eligibility and the amount of rent you pay. You give your consent to the release of this information by signing the form HUD-9887-A and the individual verification and consent forms that apply to you. Federal laws limit the kinds of information the Owner can receive about you.

**Example:** The amount of income you receive helps to determine the amount of rent you will pay. The owner will verify all of the sources of income that you report.

**Example:** There are certain allowances that reduce the income used in determining tenant rents. Mrs. Anderson is 62 years old. Her age qualifies her for a medical allowance. Her annual income will be adjusted because of this allowance. Because Mrs. Anderson's medical expenses will help determine the amount of rent she pays, the owner is required to verify any medical expenses that she reports.

**Example:** Mr. Harris does not qualify for the medical allowance because he is not at least 62 years of age and he is not handicapped or disabled. Because he is not eligible for the medical allowance, the amount of his medical expenses does not change the amount of rent he pays. Therefore, the owner cannot ask Mr. Harris anything about his medical expenses and cannot verify with a third party about any medical expenses he has.

**Customer Protections**

Information received by HUD is protected by the Federal Privacy Act. Information received by the PHA or the Owner is subject to State privacy laws. Employees of HUD, the PHA, and the Owner are subject to penalties for using these consent forms improperly.

You do not have to sign the form HUD-9887 or the individual verification consent forms when they are given to you at your certification or recertification interview. You may take them home with you to read or to discuss with a third party of your choice. The Owner will give you another date when you can return to sign these forms.

If you cannot read and/or sign a consent form due to a disability, the Owner shall make a reasonable accommodation in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Such accommodations may include: home visits when the applicant's or tenant's disability prevents him/her from coming to the office to complete the forms; the applicant or tenant authorizing another person to sign on his/her behalf; and for persons with visual impairments, accommodations may include providing the forms in large script or braille or providing readers.

If an adult member of your household, due to extenuating circumstances, is unable to sign the form HUD-9887 or the individual verification forms on time, the Owner may document the file as to the reason for the delay and the specific plans to obtain the proper signature as soon as possible.

The Owner must tell you, or a third party which you choose, of the findings made as a result of the Owner verifications authorized by your consent. The Owner must give you the opportunity to contest such findings in accordance with HUD Handbook 4350.3. However, for information received under the form HUD-9887, HUD, the PHA, or the Owner may inform you of these findings.

Owners must keep tenant files in a location that ensures confidentiality.

Any employee of the Owner who fails to keep tenant information confidential is subject to the enforcement provisions of the State Privacy Act and is subject to enforcement actions by HUD. Also, any applicant or tenant affected by negligent disclosure or improper use of information may bring civil action for damages, and seek other relief, as may be appropriate, against the employee.

HUD-9887/A requires the Owner to give each household a copy of the Fact Sheet, and forms HUD-9887, HUD-9887-A along with appropriate individual consent forms. The package you will receive will include the following documents:

1. **HUD-9887/A Fact Sheet:** Describes the requirement to verify information provided by individuals who apply for housing assistance. This fact sheet also describes consumer protections under the verification process.
2. **Form HUD-9887:** Allows the release of information between government agencies.
3. **Form HUD-9887-A:** Describes the requirement of third party verification along with consumer protections.
4. **Individual verification consents:** Used to verify the relevant information provided by applicants/tenants to determine their eligibility and level of benefits.

**Consequences for Not Signing the Consent Forms**

If you fail to sign the form HUD-9887, the form HUD-9887-A, or the individual verification forms, this may result in your assistance being denied (for applicants) or your assistance being terminated (for tenants). See further explanation on the forms HUD-9887 and 9887-A.

If you are an applicant and are denied assistance for this reason, the Owner must notify you of the reason for your rejection and give you an opportunity to appeal the decision.

If you are a tenant and your assistance is terminated for this reason, the Owner must follow the procedures set out in the Lease. This includes the opportunity for you to meet with the Owner. See paragraph 17 of your Lease.

**Programs Covered by this Fact Sheet**

- Rental Assistance Program (RAP)
- Rent Supplement
- Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Programs (administered by the Office of Housing)
- Section 202
- Sections 202 and 811 PRAC
- Section 202/162 PAC
- Section 221(d)(3) Below Market Interest Rate
- Section 236
- HOPE 2 Home Ownership of Multifamily Units

Owners must give a copy of this HUD Fact Sheet to each household. See the Instructions on form HUD-9887-A.