



On Friday, April 10, 2020 the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued waivers that offer Public Housing Authorities administrative flexibility in providing assistance to families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Here's what these waivers mean for the City of Covington Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program:

- We will begin conducting annual and interim re-certifications with participants by telephone and/or mail.
- We will temporarily accept written self-certification (either through email or mail) as well as third party oral certification when verifying participant income for annual and interim re-certifications.
- We will consider circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic as “good cause” for granting Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program contract extensions.
- We will allow property owners to self-certify the repairs of non-emergency fail items for outstanding May and June 2020 annual inspections.
- We have suspended all other annual inspections and temporarily adopted a Biennial inspection schedule. Annual inspections for these units will be conducted at a later date once it has been determined safe to do so. This waiver does not relieve owners of their responsibility to maintain the unit in accordance with HQS as required in the HAP contract, nor does it in any way restrict this agency from taking action to enforce the owner's obligations.
- We will temporarily suspend supervisory quality control inspections.
- Once an applicant's name reaches the top of the waiting list, we will waive the obligation of attending an in-person briefing session. Instead, they will be directed to watch an online video and will receive an oral briefing by telephone.
- We will temporarily delay the review and update of utility allowances.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Stay safe!

For more information on the HUD waivers or COVID-19 resources, please visit [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/covid\\_19\\_resources](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/covid_19_resources)

City of Covington  
Department of Neighborhood Services  
Housing Choice Voucher Program

