



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 overpaid rental 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 THAT...

- 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 verified.
- 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



So Be Careful!

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.

When you fill out your application and yearly recertification for assisted housing from HUD make sure your answers to the questions are accurate and honest.

You must include:

- All sources of income and changes in income (raise or bonus) you or any members of your household receive, such as wages, welfare payments, social security and veterans' benefits, pensions, retirement, etc.
- Any money you receive on behalf of your children, such as child support, AFDC payments, social security for children, etc.
- All assets, such as bank accounts, savings bonds, certificates of deposit, stocks, real estate, etc., that are owned by you or any member of your household.
- All income from assets, such as interest from savings and checking accounts, stock dividends, etc.
- Any business or asset (your home) that you sold in the last two years at less than full value.
- The names of everyone, adults or children, relatives and non-relatives, who are living with you and make up your household.



Watch Out for Housing Assistance Scams!

- Don't pay money to have someone fill out housing assistance application and recertification forms for you.
- Don't pay money to move up on a waiting list.
- Don't pay for anything that is not covered by your lease.
- Get a receipt for any money you pay especially if you pay in cash.
- Get a written explanation if you are required to pay for anything other than rent (maintenance, utility charges, or fees).

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Inspector General (OIG) is the Department's law enforcement and auditing arm and is responsible for investigating complaints of fraud, waste and mismanagement in HUD funded programs.

REPORTING FRAUD

*Serious allegations of fraud should be reported to your local
HUD Office of Inspector General or to the HUD OIG Hotline at:*

<http://www.hudoig.gov/report-fraud>