



US Department of Housing and Urban Development Region X

HUD Highlights *E-Newsletter*

April 2006 Volume 2, Number 5

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Questions or
Comments? Please
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Welcome to *HUD Highlights*. **HUD Highlights has a brand new look!** We've recently redesigned *HUD Highlights* so it's easier to read, and even more helpful.

Want to learn when grant funds are available, new policies are implemented, or about upcoming conferences or trainings? Then *HUD Highlights* is the newsletter for you! Once per month you'll get a brief email from our Regional Office highlighting important happenings at HUD, both here in the Northwest and throughout the country. [Subscribe today!](#)

Celebrating 38 Years of Fair Housing Rights

April marks the 38th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act. This year's theme is "Fair Housing: It's Not an Option... It's the Law." The Act prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, financing or advertising of any dwelling based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability and familial status, meaning families with children under age 18 or who are expecting a child. [Learn more.](#)

HUD Releases Annual Report on the State of Fair Housing

Complaints alleging disability discrimination made up 40 percent of the cases filed with HUD and its state and local partners in fiscal year 2005. Allegations of discrimination based on race comprised 38 percent of the cases and 22 percent of cases alleged that a housing provider refused to make a reasonable accommodation to their rules or procedures to assist a person with a disability. [More](#)

Did You Know?

If you or someone associated with you have a physical or mental disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a landlord may not refuse to let you make reasonable modifications to your dwelling or common use areas, at your expense, if necessary for the disabled person to use the housing. Also a landlord cannot refuse to

www.hud.gov
[HUD Spanish Website](#)

HUD Mailing Address

Seattle Regional Office
909 1st Avenue, Ste 255
Seattle, Washington
98104-1000

make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services if necessary for the disabled person to use the housing.

Have You Experienced Housing Discrimination?

Download the Housing Discrimination Complaint Form or [complete a complaint online](#)

You may also write HUD at:

Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity Enforcement HUB
909 First Avenue Room 205
Seattle WA 98104-1000

Or telephone toll-free: (800) 669-9777 or TTY (800) 927-9275

Or contact a State or local Fair Housing Agency

Student Alert: Eligibility Rules Change for Section 8 Rental Assistance

On April 10, HUD published a new rule that requires property managers or public housing authorities to separately assess the income of students enrolled in an institution of higher education and their parents income in determining Section 8 eligibility. Also any amount of student financial aid in excess of tuition will be counted in the student's income. Some exceptions apply. [Read more.](#)

Small Business Conference 2006 - Thursday, May 11, Washington D.C.

Last year 67 percent of HUD's contracts were awarded to small and disadvantaged businesses. Don't miss your window of opportunity to learn more about contracting opportunities. Free admission. Register by phone (800) 741-5159 or [register online.](#)

HUD Proposes Legislation to Modernize the Federal Housing Administration

Submitted to Congress on April 5, the FHA Modernization Act if enacted will create a new, risk-based insurance premium structure for FHA that would match the premium amount with the credit profile of the borrower, eliminate the current statutory three percent minimum down payment thereby reducing a significant barrier to homeownership, and increase and simplify FHA's loan limits. [Read more.](#)

Interested in Applying for This Year's Round of HUD Grants?

Check out the [broadcast schedule](#) for information and deadlines on various grants.

NOTE: Times shown are Eastern Time. Missed a broadcast? [Check our Webcast archive](#)