

# MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



## Section 3 Policy

*(Adopted May 26, 2010)*

## **MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

### **Economic Opportunities Policy for Section 3 Covered Contracts**

#### **Background:**

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, ("Section 3") requires that economic opportunities generated by certain U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development financial assistance for housing and community development programs be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and business concerns which provide economic opportunities to low- and very low income persons<sup>1</sup>.

Pursuant to Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended and 24 CFR Part 135, the staff of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority ("MSHDA") recommends adoption of this Economic Opportunities Policy for Section 3 Covered Contracts. The policy will provide direction to MSHDA staff for implementing Section 3, when required.

#### **Policy Statement:**

MSHDA shall provide opportunities to low- and very low-income persons residing in the State of Michigan (as defined in § 135.5 of 24 CFR Part 135) and to businesses meeting the definition of "Section 3 Business Concern" (as defined by 24 CFR Part 135). Accordingly, MSHDA shall implement policies and procedures to ensure that Section 3, when required, is followed and develop programs and procedures necessary to implement this policy covering all procurement contracts where labor and/or professional services are provided, in order to achieve the goals outlined within the State of Michigan Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. This policy shall not apply to contractors who only furnish materials or supplies through Section 3 covered assistance. It will apply to contractors who install materials or equipment. (See the definition of "Section 3 Covered Contracts" below.) There is nothing in policy that should be construed to require the employment or contracting of a Section 3 resident or contractor who does not meet the qualifications of the position to be filled or who cannot fulfill the contract requirements.

<sup>1</sup>24 CFR 135.1

## Definitions:

MSHDA incorporates into this policy the definitions contained in § 135.5 of 24 CFR Part 135. (Also, see the June 30, 1994 Federal Register.)

## Defined Terms of Policy:

- **Section 3** – Section 3 is a provision of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, which recognizes that HUD funds are typically one of the largest sources of federal funding expended in communities through the form of grants, loans, entitlement allocations and other forms of financial assistance. Section 3 is intended to ensure that when employment or contracting opportunities are generated because a covered project or activity necessitates the employment of additional persons or the awarding of contracts for work, preference must be given to low- and very low-income persons or business concerns residing in the community where the project is located.
- **Section 3 Recipient** – means any entity which receives Section 3 covered assistance, directly from HUD or from another recipient and includes, but is not limited to, any State, unit of local government, PHA, IHA, Indian tribe, or other public body, public or private nonprofit organization, private agency or institution, mortgagor, developer, limited dividend sponsor, builder, property manager, community housing development organization, resident management corporation, resident council, or cooperative association. Recipient also includes any successor, assignee or transferees of any such entity, but does not include any ultimate beneficiary under the HUD program to which Section 3 applies and does not include contractors.
- **Section 3 Resident** – A section 3 resident is 1) a public housing resident; or 2) a low- or very low-income person residing in the metropolitan area or Non-metropolitan County in which the Section 3 covered assistance is expended.
- **Section 3 Business Concern(s)** – Section 3 Business Concerns are businesses that can provide evidence that they meet one of the following: a) 51% or more owned by Section 3 residents; or b) at least 30% of its full time employees include persons that are currently Section 3 residents, or within three years of the date of first employment with the business concern were Section 3 residents; or c) provides evidence, as required, of a commitment to subcontract in excess of 25% of the dollar award of all subcontracts to be awarded to business concerns that meet the qualifications in the above two paragraphs.
- **Section 3 Covered Assistance** –  
(a) Public and Indian housing development, operating or capital funds; or other housing assistance and community development assistance expended for housing rehabilitation, housing construction or other public construction projects, such as: CDBG, HOME, 202/811, Lead-Based Paint Abatement, etc.

(b) The following definition for Section 3 Covered Assistance comes from 24 CFR 135.5:

- (1) Public and Indian housing development assistance provided pursuant to section 5 of the 1937 Act;
- (2) Public and Indian housing operating assistance provided pursuant to section 9 of the 1937 Act;
- (3) Public and Indian housing modernization assistance provided pursuant to section 14 of the 1937 Act;
- (4) Assistance provided under any HUD housing or community development program that is expended for work arising in connection with:
  - (i) Housing rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards, but excluding routine maintenance, repair and replacement);
  - (ii) Housing construction; or
  - (iii) (Other public construction project (which includes other buildings or improvements, regardless of ownership).

- **Section 3 Covered Contract** – means a contract or subcontract (including a professional service contract) awarded by a recipient or contractor for work generated by the expenditure of Section 3 Covered Assistance, or for work arising in connection with a Section 3 Covered Project. “Section 3 Covered Contracts” do not include contracts awarded under HUD procurement program, which are governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulation System (see 48 CFR, Chapter 1). “Section 3 Covered Contracts” also do not include contracts for the purchase of supplies and materials. However, whenever a contract for materials includes the installation of the materials, the contract constitutes a Section 3 Covered Contract. For example, a contract for the purchase and installation of a furnace would be a Section 3 Covered Contract because the contract is for work (i.e., the installation of the furnace) and thus is covered by Section 3.
- **Section 3 Covered Project** – A section 3 covered project involves the construction or rehabilitation of housing (including reduction of lead-based paint hazards), or other public construction such as street repair, sewage line repair or installation, updates to building facades, etc.
- **Section 3 Covered Community Planning and Development Funding** – Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership Assistance (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), Neighborhood Stabilization Programs (NSP), and certain grants awarded under HUD Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs). The requirements for Section 3 only apply to the portion(s) of covered funding that were used for project/activities involving housing construction, rehabilitation, demolition, or other public construction.

## **Responsibilities: (Recipient)**

1. A Recipient that receives community development or housing assistance covered by Section 3 has the responsibility to comply with Section 3 in its own operations. This responsibility includes:
  - a. Notifying Section 3 residents and businesses about jobs and contracts generated by Section 3 covered assistance so that residents may seek jobs and businesses may submit bids/proposals for available contracts;
  - b. Notifying potential contractors of the objectives of Section 3 and ways in which each contractor can assist the sub-recipient to meet its goal;
  - c. Facilitating the training and employment of Section 3 residents and the award of contracts to Section 3 business concerns; and
  - d. Documenting the action that the sub-recipient takes to comply with the Section 3 requirements, the results of the actions, and impediments, if any.
2. Recipients have a responsibility to “ensure compliance” of their contractors and subcontractors. This means that a sub-recipient must:
  - a. Notify contractors of their responsibilities under Section 3 including, but not limited to, incorporating the Section 3 Clause in contract documents.
  - b. Refrain from entering into contracts with contractors that are in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135.
  - c. Respond to complaints made to the recipient by Section 3 residents or business concerns that the sub-recipient, a contractor or subcontractor, is not in compliance with 24 CFR Part 135.
  - d. Cooperate with HUD in obtaining the compliance of contractors and subcontractors when allegations are made that the sub-recipient’s contractors and subcontractors are not in compliance with the regulation of 24 CFR Part 135.

## **Goals:**

All contractors undertaking Section 3 covered projects and activities are expected to meet the Section 3 requirements. To demonstrate compliance with the "greatest extent feasible" requirement of Section 3, contractors must meet the goals set forth below for providing training, employment and contracting opportunities to Section 3 residents and Section 3 business concerns. To meet the goals, contractors must select Section 3 residents based on the following priorities pursuant to § 135.34, 24 CFR Part 135:

**First Priority** - Residents of the development where the work is to be performed.

**Second Priority** - Other residents of the neighborhood where the work is to be performed.

**Third Priority** - Other residents of the neighborhood who are participants in HUD-Youthbuild or others federal, state, and local job programs being carried out in the city or county area.

**Fourth Priority** - Other persons from the project metropolitan area who meet the definition of Section 3 resident contained in § 135.5 of 24 CFR Part 135.

## **Employment:**

All contractors will seek low- or very low-income persons residing in the property metropolitan area for 30% of all new hires. When applicable, the contractor must show evidence of seeking project residents for 15% of the new hires.

Eligibility for employment or contracting nothing in this policy shall be construed to require the employment or contracting of a Section 3 resident or contractor who does not meet the qualifications of the position to be filled or who can not perform the contract.

## **Preference for Section 3 Business Concerns:**

Preference shall be awarded to Section 3 Business Concerns according to the following system:

- A. Where the Section 3 Covered Contract is to be awarded based upon the lowest price, the contract shall be awarded to the qualified Section 3 Business Concern with the lowest responsive quotation, if it is reasonable and no more than 10 percent higher than the quotation of the lowest responsive quotation from any qualified source. If no responsive quotation by a qualified Section 3 Business Concern is within 10 percent of the lowest responsive quotation from any qualified source, the award shall be made to the source with the lowest quotation. If it is reasonable and no more than 10 percent higher than the quotation of the lowest responsive quotation from any qualified source. If no responsive quotation by a qualified Section 3 Business Concern is within 10 percent of the lowest responsive quotation from any qualified source, the award shall be made to the source with the lowest quotation.
- B. Where the Section 3 Covered Contract is to be awarded based on factors other than price, a request for quotations shall be issued by developing the particulars of the solicitation, including a rating system for the assignment of points to evaluate the merits of each quotation. The solicitation shall identify all factors to be considered, including price or cost. The rating system shall provide for a range of 15 to 25 percent of the total

number of available rating points to be set aside for the provision of preference for Section 3 Business Concerns. The purchase order shall be awarded to the responsible firm whose quotation is the most advantageous, considering price and all other factors specified in the rating system.

**Competitive Bids:** Procurement by Sealed Bids (Invitations for Bids)

Preference in the award of Section 3 Covered Contracts that are awarded under a sealed bid process may be provided as follows:

Bids shall be solicited from all businesses (Section 3 Business Concerns, and non Section 3 Business Concerns). An award shall be made to the qualified Section 3 Business Concern with the highest priority ranking and with the lowest responsive bid if that bid—

1. Bids shall be solicited from all businesses (i.e. Section 3 Business Concerns and non-Section 3 Business Concerns). An award shall be made to the qualified Section 3 Business Concern with the highest priority ranking (as defined in 24 CFR Part 135) and with the lowest responsive bid if that bid:

- A.) is within the maximum total contract price established in MSHDA's budget for the specific project for which bids are being taken; and
- B.) is not more than "X" higher than the total bid price of the lowest responsive bid from any responsible bidder. "X" is determined as follows:

X = lesser of:

When the lowest responsive bid is less than \$100,000 . . . .	10% of that bid or \$9,000
When the lowest responsive bid is:	
At least \$100,000, but less than \$200,000 . . . .	9% of that bid or \$16,000
At least \$200,000, but less than \$300,000 . . . .	8% of that bid or \$21,000
At least \$300,000, but less than \$400,000 . . . .	7% of that bid or \$24,000
At least \$400,000, but less than \$500,000 . . . .	6% of that bid or \$25,000
At least \$500,000, but less than \$1 million . . . . .	5% of that bid or \$40,000
At least \$1 million, but less than \$2 million. . . . .	4% of that bid or \$60,000
At least \$2 million, but less than \$4 million. . . . .	3% of that bid or \$80,000
At least \$4 million, but less than \$7 million. . . . .	2% of that bid or \$105,000
\$7 million or more . . . .	1.5% of the lowest responsive bid, with no dollar limit.

2. If no responsive bid by a Section 3 Business Concern meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this section, the contract shall be awarded to a responsible bidder with the lowest responsive bid.

3. In both paragraph 1 and 2 above, a bidder, to be considered as responsible, must demonstrate compliance with the "greatest extent feasible" requirement of Section 3.

**Compliance:**

HUD holds MSHDA accountable for compliance with Section 3 requirements. In its written agreement with its housing partners, MSHDA will site Section 3 obligations. When a housing partner is unable to meet Section 3 goals, MSHDA will place the burden of proving compliance with Section 3 on the recipient.

The minimum numerical goal for employment is 30 percent of the aggregate number of new hires shall be Section 3 residents annually—i.e., 1 out of 3 new employees needed to complete a Section 3 covered project/activity shall be a Section 3 resident.

The minimum goals for contracting are:

- Ten percent of the total dollar amount of all Section 3 covered contracts for building trades work for maintenance, repair, modernization or development of public or Indian housing or building trades work arising in connection with housing rehabilitation, housing construction and other public construction, shall be awarded to Section 3 businesses; and
- Three percent of the total dollar amount of all non-construction Section 3 covered contracts, shall be awarded to Section 3 businesses.

Safe harbor and compliance determinations: In the absent of evidence to the contrary (i.e., evidence that efforts to the “greatest extent feasible” were not expended), if a recipient or contractor meets the minimum numerical goals shown above, the recipient or contractor is considered to have complied with Section 3 preference requirements.

The recipient will be expected to demonstrate why it was not feasible to meet the goals. Ultimately, HUD will evaluate MSHDA based on its ability to describe the efforts that it took to meet the training, hiring, and contracting requirements and the impediments incurred despite actions taken. At a minimum, if recipients of Section 3 Assistance are unable to meet their Section 3 training, hiring, and contracting goals, they should **sponsor or participate** in upward mobility programs, hire eligible residents in trainee positions with regard to training and employment, or form Section 3 joint ventures with various local employment agencies.

### **Data Collection and Reporting:**

MSHDA will submit data semi-annually to HUD that document all prevailing wage, MBE, and WBE activities and Section 3 activities annually undertaken by themselves and their housing partners. Prevailing wages, MBE and WBE participation data will be captured on Part III of the semi-annually Performance Report (Form HUD-40107). Section 3 data is captured on the Section 3 Summary Report (Form HUD-60002). MSHDA will submit both forms to HUD along with the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). To facilitate completion of these semi-annual and annual reports, MSHDA managers have or will become familiar with the data collection and reporting requirements and will review policies, procedures and progress reports on a regular basis, to monitor MSHDA’s progress in meeting these goals.

These forms are available online [http://www.hudclips.org/sub\\_nonhud/html/forms.htm](http://www.hudclips.org/sub_nonhud/html/forms.htm).

The HUD-60002 forms are submitted online or by mail to:

Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity,  
Economic Opportunity Division,  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20410.

# MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



## Section 3 Handbook

*(Effective October 1, 2010)*

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## **Introduction**

These guidelines have been prepared to provide information and guidance to Section 3 recipients on how the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) will administer the Section 3 regulations. This guide should not be treated as a comprehensive recitation of the Section 3 Act and Section 3 Regulations. It is a summary of the pertinent provisions of the Section 3 Act and Section 3 Regulations, and focuses on the Section 3 Requirements imposed on the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor receiving the requisite amount of Section 3 Funds. Michigan State Housing Development Authority reminds each Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor that it bears the responsibility to familiarize itself with the Section 3 Act and Section 3 Regulations prior to accepting Section 3 Covered Assistance from MSHDA.

## **Definitions**

**Developer** means any entity engaged in the business of development of affordable housing which is an applicant for Section 3 Covered Assistance or has been awarded Section 3 Covered Assistance in excess of \$200,000 by MSHDA.

**General Contractor** means any entity which has been awarded a construction contract of \$100,000 or more by a Developer to provide general contractor services, which are generated by the expenditure of Section 3 Covered Assistance or in connection with a Section 3 Covered Projects.

**Department or HUD** means the Department of Housing and Urban Development, including its field offices to which authority has been delegated to perform functions under this part.

**Employment Opportunities** means all employment opportunities arising in connection with a Section 3 Covered Project, as described in 135.3(a)(2), including management and administrative jobs connected with the Section 3 Covered Project. Management and administrative jobs include architectural, engineering or related professional services required to prepare plans, drawings, specifications, or work write-ups; and jobs directly related to administrative support of these activities, e.g., construction manager, relocation specialists, payroll clerk, etc.

**Housing and community development assistance** means any financial assistance provided or otherwise made available through a HUD housing or community development program, through any grant, loan, loan guarantee, cooperative agreement, or contract, and includes community development funds in the form of community development block grants, and loans guaranteed under Section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Housing and community development assistance does not include financial assistance provided through a contract of insurance or guaranty.

**HUD:** See Department or HUD above

**Low-income person** is defined in the definition of "Section 3 Resident" herein.

**MSHDA** means Michigan State Housing Development Authority

**Metropolitan area** means a metropolitan statistical area (MSA), as established by the Office of Management and Budget.

**Neighborhood Area or Section 3 Area** means for HUD housing programs, a geographical location within the jurisdiction of a unit of general local government (but not the entire jurisdiction) designated in ordinances, or other local documents as a neighborhood, village or similar geographical designation.

**New hires** mean full-time employees for permanent, temporary or seasonal employment opportunities.

**Non-metropolitan Area** means any area outside of a metropolitan area.

**Public and Indian Housing Assistance** includes funds used for:

1. Development assistance provided pursuant to Section 5 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (the "1937 Act");
2. Operating Assistance provided pursuant to Section 9 of the 1937 Act; and
3. Modernization Assistance provided pursuant to Section 14 of the 1937 Act.

**Recipient** means any entity which receives Section 3 Covered Assistance directly from HUD or from another Recipient and includes, but is not limited to, any State, unit of local government, PHA, IHA, Indian Tribe, or other public body, public or private nonprofit organization, private agency or institution, mortgagor, developer, limited dividend sponsor, builder, property manager, community housing development organization, resident management corporation, resident council, or cooperative association. Recipient also includes any successor, assignee or transferee of any such entity, but does not include any ultimate beneficiary under the HUD program to which Section 3 applies and does not include contractors.

**Secretary** means the Secretary of Housing Urban Development (HUD).

**Section 3 Act** means Section 3 of the Housing Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701u).

**Section 3 Covered Assistance** means: a) Public and Indian Housing Assistance and b) Housing Assistance and c) Community Development Assistance:

**Section 3 Business Concern** means a company:

- (1) that is 51 percent or more owned by Section 3 Residents; or
- (2) whose permanent, full-time employees include persons, at least 30 percent of whom are currently Section 3 Residents, or within three years of the date of first employment with the Business Concern were Section 3 residents; or
- (3) that provides evidence of a commitment to contract in excess of 25 percent of the dollar award of all subcontracts to be awarded to business concerns that meet the qualifications set forth in paragraphs (1) or (2) in this definition of "Section 3 Business Concern".

**Section 3 Clause** means the contract provisions set forth in 24 CFR 135.38 and is found in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

**Section 3 Covered Contract** means a contract or subcontract (including a professional service contract) awarded by a Recipient, Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor for work generated by the expenditure of Section 3 Covered Assistance of \$100,000 or more, or for work in like amount, arising in connection with a Section 3 Project. Section 3 Covered Contract does not include any contracts for the purchase of supplies or materials, unless the contract includes the installation of the supplies or materials.

**Section 3 Covered Project** means the construction, reconstruction, conversion or rehabilitation of housing (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards), or other public construction which includes buildings or improvements (regardless of ownership) assisted with housing or community development assistance.

**Section 3 Regulations** means the regulations found at 24 CFR Part 135 which govern the application of the Section 3 Act.

**Section 3 Requirements** means the employment, training and contracting opportunities imposed by the Section 3 Act upon Recipients and Covered Contractors.

**Section 3 Resident** means: (1) A public housing resident; or (2) An individual who resides in the metropolitan area or a non-metropolitan county in which the Section 3 Covered Assistance is expended, and who is:

- (i) A low-income person, as this term is defined in section 3(b)(2) of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)), which is families (including single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 80 per centum of the median income for the area, as determined by the Secretary, with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 80 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of prevailing levels of construction costs or unusually high or low-income families; or
- (ii) A very low-income person, as this term is defined in section 3(b)(2) of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)), which is families (including single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 50 per centum of the median family income for the area, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 50 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

**Subcontractor** means any entity awarded a Section 3 Covered Contract of \$100,000 or more by a General Contractor.

### **Section 3 Purpose**

The Section 3 Act was enacted by HUD (12 U.S.C. 1701u), as amended, to ensure that certain employment and economic opportunities generated by certain HUD-funded Section 3 Covered Assistance are, to the greatest extent feasible, directed to Section 3 Residents and Section 3 Business Concerns. Therefore, upon receipt of the requisite amount of Section 3 Covered Assistance and awards of Section 3 Covered Contracts, the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor must comply with the Section 3 Requirements.

### **MSHDA Policy Statement**

MSHDA shall provide opportunities to low- and very low-income persons residing in the State of Michigan (as defined in § 135.5 of 24 CFR Part 135) and to businesses meeting the definition of "Section 3 Business Concern" (as defined by 24 CFR Part 135). Accordingly, MSHDA shall implement policies and procedures to ensure that Section 3, when required, is followed and develop programs and procedures necessary to implement this policy covering all procurement contracts where labor and/or professional services are provided, in order to achieve the goals outlined within the State of Michigan Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. This policy shall not apply to contractors who only furnish materials or supplies through Section 3 covered assistance. It will apply to contractors who install materials or equipment. (See the definition of "Section 3 Covered Contracts" below.) There is nothing in policy that should be construed to require the employment or contracting of a Section 3 resident or contractor who does not meet the qualifications of the position to be filled or who cannot fulfill the contract requirements.

**Successful compliance with the Section 3 Act and the Section 3 Regulations by the Developer and General Contractor will be a factor in determining future awards of Section 3 Covered Assistance.**

According to the Section 3 Regulations, located at 24 CFR Part 135, Section 3 Covered Assistance Recipients are required to provide employment, training and contracting opportunities to Section 3 Residents or Section 3 Business Concerns. However, the Section 3 Requirements are not imposed upon a recipient that does not engage in the hiring or training of persons, but instead awards contracts to Developers and General Contractors that hire and train in connection with Section 3 Covered Projects. According to the Section 3 Regulations, these recipients may comply with Section 3 by ensuring that the Developers, General Contractors and Subcontractors receiving Section 3 Covered Assistance comply with the Section 3 Act.

**Section 3 Coordinator**

MSHDA has established a Section 3 Coordinator, who will serve as the immediate point of contact for the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor, and is available to assist in meeting its Section 3 Requirements. In addition, the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator will provide the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor with Section 3 materials, including the Section 3 Act, Section 3 Regulations, and these MSHDA Section 3 Guidelines. Further, the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator is available to provide technical assistance to the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor. Technical assistance may consist of help in understanding the Section 3 regulations, identifying employment opportunities and training programs available to Section 3 Residents, and information on outreach to Section 3 Residents and Section 3 Business Concerns. The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator may also develop Section 3 forums and make presentations at seminars and panel discussions on Section 3.

The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator may engage additional MSHDA staff who will assist the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator in the acquisition, assemblage, review and analysis of reports submitted by the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor. MSHDA staff may also conduct random on-site reviews of the Section 3 Covered Project to assess compliance with the Section 3 Act.

The Developer, General Contractor, and Subcontractor will appoint a Section 3 coordinator and provide the name, address, telephone number and email address of this individual to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator. This person will be the direct point of contact with the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator and advise the Developer, General Contract, Subcontractor personnel and staff on Section 3 compliance. In addition, the coordinator will be responsible for the submission of all required Section 3 reports to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator. Further this individual will serve as the point of contact for Section 3 complaints and as the on-site monitor of the Developer, General Contract, and Subcontractor implementation of its respective Section 3 Plan.

**Section 3 Meeting**

Once MSHDA has awarded the Section 3 Covered Assistance, it will schedule a meeting with the Developers to discuss the Section 3 Requirements. Attendees will include the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator, General Contractors, various MSHDA personnel, and the Developer's Section 3 Coordinator and the General Contractor's Section 3 Coordinator, if selected. The purpose of the meeting is to address any questions the attendees may have regarding

compliance with Section 3 Regulations. All attendees will be provided with a copy of the MSHDA Section 3 Guidelines, the Section 3 Act and the Section 3 Regulations. Each Developer and General Contractor will also be required to submit a statement to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator acknowledging its receipt of the foregoing documents as well as its understanding that Section 3 Regulations apply to the specific Section 3 Covered Project, and its commitment to submit a Section 3 Plan in accordance with the deadlines set out in the conditional reservation agreement.

### **Section 3 Contracting Opportunity Goals**

Developers, General Contractors and Subcontractors with Section 3 Covered Contracts must establish certain contracting opportunity goals for Section 3 Business Concerns in connection with the Section 3 Covered Project. These numerical goals apply to contracts awarded by the Developer, the General Contractor or Subcontractor. These goals can be met by achieving the following benchmarks:

- a) At least 10% of the total dollar amount of all Section 3 Covered Contracts for building trades work arising in connection with housing rehabilitation, housing construction and other public construction; and
- b) At least 3% of the total dollar amount of all other Section 3 Covered Contracts.

### **Employment and Training Opportunity Goals**

The Section 3 Act requires the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor to utilize Section 3 Residents and Section 3 Business Concerns in relation to the development of Section 3 projects, to the greatest extent feasible. Specifically, the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor must establish certain Section 3 goals for each Section 3 Project.

All Section 3 employment and training goals must be explicitly set forth in all Section 3 Plans, as follows:

"The numerical goal for Employment for this Section 3 Covered Project is \_\_\_\_% of new hires.

The numerical goal for Training for this Section 3 Covered Project is \_\_\_\_% of residents hired."

Employment and training goals may be met by either directly providing the employment or training or by facilitating the employment or training. That is, the Developer, Contractor or Subcontractor may satisfy the Section 3 employment and training goals by arranging for the employment or training of Section 3 Residents in connection with: a) the Developer's Section 3 Covered Projects; b) the Developer's non-Section 3 projects; c) other non-Section 3 Projects.

The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator is available to provide technical assistance in order to meet these employment and training goals.

The Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor must provide in its Section 3 Plan a breakdown of job categories and positions needed for the Section 3 Covered Project, including positions occupied by permanent employees.

If the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor does not have any employment or training opportunities available in connection with the Section 3 Covered Project, this must be reflected in its Section 3 Plan.

### **Formal Section 3 Plan**

After the General Contractor has been selected the Developer shall submit a comprehensive Section 3 Plan, signed by the Developer and the General Contractor. The comprehensive Section 3 Plan will include the Section 3 goals of the Developer and the General Contractor. This comprehensive Section 3 Plan will be submitted to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator for review and approval, in accordance with the deadlines set forth in the conditional reservation letter, as may be revised by any written extensions.

Upon submission of the comprehensive Section 3 Plan, the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator will review it and either approve it, conditionally approve it, with suggested modifications or disapprove the plan. MSHDA will not issue a firm commitment to the Developer until a Section 3 Plan has been approved. After the Section 3 Plan has been approved, it will be made a part of the construction documents, and the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator will review and monitor it regularly to assess its implementation and the attainment of the Section 3 goals. As subcontracts in excess of \$100,000 are awarded, those Subcontractors will be required to submit its own Section 3 Plan to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator for review and approval.

Other items that must be submitted to MSHDA include copies of all bid documents that are submitted and all contracts that are awarded.

### **Components of a Section 3 Plan**

The Section 3 Plan must include specific information, not limited to the following:

- a) Developer, General Contractor, or Subcontractor's statement certifying it intends to comply with the Section 3 Act and Section 3 Regulations, as well as the MSHDA Section 3 Guidelines;
- b) Developer, General Contractor, or Subcontractor's statement certifying each is aware of the employment, training, and contracting goals, and agree to work together to meet these goals;
- c) Name and contact information of the Developer, General Contractor, or Subcontractor's Section 3 coordinator;
- d) Identification of the Section 3 Project area (see definition of Neighborhood Area);
- e) Developer, General Contractor, or Subcontractor's current workforce;
- f) Developer, General Contractor, or Subcontractor's Contractor's workforce necessitated by the Section 3 Covered Project;
- g) Developer, General Contractor, or Subcontractor's Section 3 employment, training and contracting opportunity goals;
- h) Specific strategies for notifying Section 3 Residents of Section 3 employment and training goals;
- i) Specific strategies for notifying Section 3 Business Concerns of Section 3 contracting opportunities;
- j) Commitment to inform all Subcontractors of its Section 3 Plan;
- k) Developer's commitment to prepare and submit monthly Section 3 reports to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator;
- l) General Contractor's commitment to prepare and submit monthly reports to its Section 3 coordinator;

- m) Commitment of Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor to include the Section 3 Clause in all construction contracts and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000.00 awarded as a result of the Section 3 Covered Assistance.
- n) Commitment by Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor to conduct aggressive outreach and notification campaign to Section 3 Residents and Section 3 Business Concerns regarding its Section 3 goals, including the usage of site signage, flyers, etc.
- o) Commitment to provide employment agencies and local public housing authorities of possible employment, training and contracting opportunities to established job pools of Section 3 area residents;
- p) Inclusion of other strategies which facilitate the achievement of the Section 3 goals established by the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor

### **Implementation Strategies**

In order to comply with the Section 3 Act and the Section 3 Regulations, the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor, as applicable, must implement an aggressive campaign to encourage participation of Section 3 Residents and Section 3 Business Concerns. Some strategies to implement this campaign include the following:

- a) Publish in a local newspaper a notice of the potential employment and training opportunities for Section 3 Residents and potential contracting opportunities for Section 3 Business Concerns. Written notice must be provided in sufficient time to enable business concerns the opportunity to respond to the bid invitation.
- b) Post in a prominent location at the Section 3 Covered Project site notice of the potential employment and training opportunities for Section 3 Residents, and potential contracting opportunities for Section 3 Business Concerns.
- c) Submit letters or flyers to the residents of the Section 3 Covered Project advising them of the employment, training and contracting opportunities for the Section 3 Covered Project (applies to rehabilitation when there are existing residents);
- d) Provide the residents of the Section 3 Covered Project and the surrounding area with information on how to get certified as a Section 3 Resident or a Section 3 Business Concern;
- e) Provide the local public housing authority with flyers, notices and other information related to the Section 3 employment, training and contracting Opportunities for the Section 3 Covered Project;
- f) Provide information to residents of a Section 3 Covered Project and the surrounding area regarding established job training programs located within the Section 3 Covered Project area;
- g) Provide minority and women-focused labor and trade organizations with notice of Section 3 employment, training and business opportunity goals
- h) Provide minority and women-focused labor and trade organizations with notice of when and where plans and specifications for bid review will be distributed;
- i) Establish public forums regarding Section 3 Covered Projects being developed within the Section 3 area, in which the Developer, General Contractor and Subcontractor will participate;
- j) Utilize other strategies set forth in Appendix "A" of the Section 3 Regulations;
- k) Seek out referral sources in order to ensure job readiness for public housing residents through on-the-job-training (OJT) and mentoring to obtain necessary skills that will transfer into the external labor market.

### **Certification of Section 3 Residents**

Individuals seeking to participate in Section 3 Covered Projects must first be certified by an organization authorized to provide the required designation that they are eligible Section 3 Residents. If no certifying agency exists for an area, the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor shall complete and submit a Certification for Resident Seeking Section 3 Preference in Training and Employment to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator.

The following information must be provided to the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor by the individual:

Name of Individual: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Technical Skill: \_\_\_\_\_  
Training Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of income eligibility must be provided by the Section 3 Resident. To be income eligible the Section 3 Resident must qualify either as a "low-income person" or a "very low-income person". For further explanation, please refer to the definition of a Section 3 Resident found earlier in these guidelines. Verification of Section 3 eligibility may consist of any of the following: a) a public housing authority lease agreement; b) evidence of income (most recent W-2 or income tax return); c) evidence of the receipt of public assistance; or d) any other evidence acceptable to MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator.

### **Certification of Section 3 Business Concerns**

Any business seeking to be certified as a Section 3 Business Concern must be certified by an organization authorized to provide the required designation. If no certifying agency exists for an area, the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor shall complete and submit the "Certification for Section 3 Business Concerns Seeking Section 3 Preference in Contracting" to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator.

### **Technical Support and Monitoring**

The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator is available to provide technical support to Developers, General Contractors and Subcontractors participating in the development of Section 3 Covered Projects. The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator will also maintain a limited database of Certified Section 3 Business Concerns and outreach agencies located in Michigan.

Developers, General Contractors and Subcontractors are required to submit copies to the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator of all outreach attempts, copies of all responses to notices published in the paper and posted other places, copies of all responses to bid invitations, and any other documentation helpful in monitoring compliance with the approved Section 3 Plan.

The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator requires reports submitted by the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor to assess compliance with the Section 3 Act and the Section 3 Regulations. Reports are due no later than the 20th of each month. A report must be submitted every month; if there is nothing to report, that must be stated on the form. When the Section 3

Covered Project is completed, a final report will be due along with other customary due diligence documentation. The HUD Form 60002 shall be used for the final report.

The MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator or MSHDA staff may conduct on-site random reviews of the Section 3 Covered Project to determine whether the developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor are complying with its approved Section 3 Plan.

In the event the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator determines that the Developer, General Contractor or Subcontractor is not meeting its employment, training or contracting opportunity goals as set out in the approved Section 3 Plan, she will provide the respective party with written notice of non-compliance. The notice will require the noncomplying party to meet with the MSHDA Section 3 Coordinator to determine if the noncomplying party used its best efforts to meet Section 3 requirements, and if further outreach attempts would result in goals being successfully met.

### **Attachments:**

- Section 3 Act
- Section 3 Regulations
- Section 3 Clause
- Section 3 Plan Template (Owner/Developer and General Contractor)
- Section 3 Plan Template (Subcontractor)
- Contracting Plan Worksheet
- Outreach to Solicit Bids from Section 3 Businesses
- Permanent Employee Listing (Owner/Developer)
- Permanent Employee Listing (General Contractor)
- Permanent Employee Listing (Subcontractor)
- Workforce Needed for Section 3 Covered Project (Owner/Developer-Estimated)
- Workforce Needed for Section 3 Covered Project (General Contractor-Estimated)
- Workforce Needed for Section 3 Covered Project (Subcontractor-Estimated)
- New Hires (Owner/Developer)
- New Hires (General Contractor)
- New Hires (Subcontractor)
- Section 3 New Hires Trained (Owner/Developer)
- Section 3 New Hires Trained (General Contractor)
- Section 3 New Hires Trained (Subcontractor)
- Certification for Business Concerns Seeking Section 3 Preference in Contracting
- Certification for Resident Seeking Section 3 Preference in Training & Employment
- HUD Form 60002 Section 3 Summary Report

## SECTION 3 STATUTE

### HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968 (PUBLIC LAW 90-448; STAT. 12 U.S.C. 1701u)

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOWER INCOME PERSONS IN CONNECTION WITH ASSISTED PROJECTS

Sec 3. In the administration of programs directly receiving financial assistance including community development block grants, in the aid of housing, urban planning, development, redevelopment, or renewal of public or community facilities, and new community development, the Secretary of HUD shall –

1. *require*, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, that to the greatest extent feasible, opportunities for training and employment arising in connection with the planning and carrying out of any project assisted under any such program be given to lower income persons residing within the unit of local government or the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county), as determined by the Secretary, in which the project is located; and
2. *require*, in consultation with the administrator of the Small Business Administration, that to the greatest extent feasible, contracts for work to be performed in connection with any such project be awarded to business concerns, including but not limited to individuals or firms doing business in the field of planning, consulting, design, architecture, building construction, rehabilitation, maintenance, or repair, which are located in, or owned in substantial part by persons residing in the same metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) as the project.

1992 Amendments to Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH HUD PROGRAMS

*Following is an excerpt from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992:*

SEC. 915 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW AND VERY LOW INCOME PERSONS

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u.) is amended to read as follows:

SEC. 3 Economic opportunities for low – and very low–income persons

**(a) Findings**

The Congress finds that—

- (1) Federal housing and community development programs provide State and local governments and other recipients of Federal financial assistance with substantial funds for projects and activities that produce significant employment and other economic opportunities;
- (2) low- and very low-income persons, especially recipients of government assistance for housing, often have restricted access to employment and other economic opportunities;
- (3) the employment and other economic opportunities generated by projects and activities that receive Federal housing and community development assistance offer an effective means of empowering low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of government assistance for housing; and
- (4) prior Federal efforts to direct employment and other economic opportunities generated by Federal housing and community development programs to low- and very low-income persons have not been fully effective and should be intensified.

**(b) Policy**

It is the policy of the Congress and the purpose of this section to ensure that the employment and other economic opportunities generated by Federal financial assistance for housing and community development programs shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed toward low- and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing.

**(c) Employment**

**(1) Public and Indian housing program**

**(A) In general**

The Secretary shall require that public and Indian housing agencies, and their contractors and subcontractors, make their best efforts, consistent with existing Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, to give to low- and very low-income persons the training and employment opportunities generated by development assistance provided pursuant to section 1437c of title 42, operating assistance provided pursuant to section 1437g of title 42, and modernization grants provided pursuant to section 1437i of title 42.<sup>[1]</sup>

**(B) Priority**

The efforts required under subparagraph (A) shall be directed in the following order of priority:

- (i) To residents of the housing developments for which the assistance is expended.
- (ii) To residents of other developments managed by the public or Indian housing agency that is expending the assistance.
- (iii) To participants in YouthBuild programs receiving assistance under section 2918a of title 29.
- (iv) To other low- and very low-income persons residing within the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the assistance is expended.

**(2) Other programs**

**(A) In general**

In other programs that provide housing and community development assistance, the Secretary shall ensure that, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, opportunities for training and employment arising in connection with a housing rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards), housing construction, or other public construction project are given to low- and very low-income persons residing within the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the project is located.

**(B) Priority**

Where feasible, priority should be given to low- and very low-income persons residing within the service area of the project or the neighborhood in which the project is located and to participants in YouthBuild programs receiving assistance under section 2918a of title 29.

**(d) Contracting**

**(1) Public and Indian housing program**

**(A) In general**

The Secretary shall require that public and Indian housing agencies, and their contractors and subcontractors, make their best efforts, consistent with existing Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, to award contracts for work to be performed in connection with development assistance provided pursuant to section 1437c of title 42, operating assistance provided pursuant to section 1437g of title 42, and modernization grants provided pursuant to section 1437i of title 42,<sup>[1]</sup> to business concerns that provide economic opportunities for low- and very low-income persons.

**(B) Priority**

The efforts required under subparagraph (A) shall be directed in the following order of priority:

- (i) To business concerns that provide economic opportunities for residents of the housing development for which the assistance is provided.
- (ii) To business concerns that provide economic opportunities for residents of other housing developments operated by the public and Indian housing agency that is providing the assistance.
- (iii) To YouthBuild programs receiving assistance under section 2918a of title 29.
- (iv) To business concerns that provide economic opportunities for low- and very low-income persons residing within the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the assistance is provided.

**(2) Other programs**

**(A) In general**

In providing housing and community development assistance pursuant to other programs, the Secretary shall ensure that, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, contracts awarded for work to be performed in connection with a housing rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards), housing construction, or other public construction project are given to business concerns that provide economic opportunities for low- and very low-income persons residing within the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the assistance is expended.

**(B) Priority**

Where feasible, priority should be given to business concerns which provide economic opportunities for low- and very low-income persons residing within the service area of the project or the neighborhood in which the project is located and to YouthBuild programs receiving assistance under section 2918a of title 29.

**(e) Definitions**

For the purposes of this section the following definitions shall apply:

**(1) Low- and very low-income persons**

The terms "low-income persons" and "very low-income persons" have the same meanings given the terms "low-income families" and "very low-income families", respectively, in section 1437a (b)(2) of title 42.

**(2) Business concern that provides economic opportunities**

The term "a business concern that provides economic opportunities" means a business concern that—

- (A)** provides economic opportunities for a class of persons that has a majority controlling interest in the business;
- (B)** employs a substantial number of such persons; or
- (C)** meets such other criteria as the Secretary may establish.

**(f) Coordination with other Federal agencies**

The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and such other Federal agencies as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry out this section.

**(g) Regulations**

Not later than 180 days after October 28, 1992, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to implement this section.

## **Title 24: Housing and Urban Development**

### **PART 135—ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW- AND VERY LOW-INCOME PERSONS**

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#### **Section Contents**

##### **Subpart A—General Provisions**

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- § 135.2 Effective date of regulation.
- § 135.3 Applicability.
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##### **Subpart E—Reporting and Recordkeeping**

- § 135.90 Reporting.
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- Appendix to Part 135

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**Authority:** 12 U.S.C. 1701u; 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

**Source:** 59 FR 33880, June 30, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

**Effective Date Note:** At 59 FR 33880, June 30, 1994, part 135 was revised effective August 1, 1994 through June 30, 1995. At 60 FR 28325, May 31, 1995, the effective period was extended until the final rule implementing changes made to section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 is published and becomes effective.

##### **Subpart A—General Provisions**

### **§ 135.1 Purpose.**

(a) *Section 3.* The purpose of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) (section 3) is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by certain HUD financial assistance shall, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State and local laws and regulations, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to business concerns which provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons.

(b) *Part 135.* The purpose of this part is to establish the standards and procedures to be followed to ensure that the objectives of section 3 are met.

### **§ 135.2 Effective date of regulation.**

The regulations of this part will remain in effect until the date the final rule adopting the regulations of this part with or without changes is published and becomes effective, at which point the final rule will remain in effect.

[60 FR 28326, May 31, 1995]

### **§ 135.3 Applicability.**

(a) *Section 3 covered assistance.* Section 3 applies to the following HUD assistance (section 3 covered assistance):

(1) *Public and Indian housing assistance.* Section 3 applies to training, employment, contracting and other economic opportunities arising from the expenditure of the following public and Indian housing assistance:

(i) Development assistance provided pursuant to section 5 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (1937 Act);

(ii) Operating assistance provided pursuant to section 9 of the 1937 Act; and

(iii) Modernization assistance provided pursuant to section 14 of the 1937 Act;

(2) *Housing and community development assistance.* Section 3 applies to training, employment, contracting and other economic opportunities arising in connection with the expenditure of housing assistance (including section 8 assistance, and including other housing assistance not administered by the Assistant Secretary of Housing) and community development assistance that is used for the following projects;

(i) Housing rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards, but excluding routine maintenance, repair and replacement);

(ii) Housing construction; and

(iii) Other public construction.

(3) *Thresholds* —(i) *No thresholds for section 3 covered public and Indian housing assistance.* The requirements of this part apply to section 3 covered assistance provided to recipients, notwithstanding the amount of the assistance provided to the recipient. The requirements of this part apply to all contractors and subcontractors performing work in connection with projects and activities funded by public and Indian housing assistance covered by section 3, regardless of the amount of the contract or subcontract.

(ii) *Thresholds for section 3 covered housing and community development assistance* —(A) *Recipient thresholds.* The requirements of this part apply to recipients of other housing and community development program assistance for a section 3 covered project(s) for which the amount of the assistance exceeds \$200,000.

(B) *Contractor and subcontractor thresholds.* The requirements of this part apply to contractors and subcontractors performing work on section 3 covered project(s) for which the amount of the assistance exceeds \$200,000; and the contract or subcontract exceeds \$100,000.

(C) *Threshold met for recipients, but not contractors or subcontractors.* If a recipient receives section 3 covered housing or community development assistance in excess of \$200,000, but no contract exceeds \$100,000, the section 3 preference requirements only apply to the recipient.

(b) *Applicability of section 3 to entire project or activity funded with section 3 assistance.* The requirements of this part apply to the entire project or activity that is funded with section 3 covered assistance, regardless of whether the section 3 activity is fully or partially funded with section 3 covered assistance.

(c) *Applicability to Indian housing authorities and Indian tribes.* Indian housing authorities and tribes that receive HUD assistance described in paragraph (a) of this section shall comply with the procedures and requirements of this part to the maximum extent consistent with, but not in derogation of, compliance with section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450e(b)). (See 24 CFR part 905.)

(d) *Other HUD assistance and other Federal assistance.* Recipients, contractors and subcontractors that receive HUD assistance, not listed in paragraph (a) of this section, or other Federal assistance, are encouraged to provide, to the greatest extent feasible, training, employment, and contracting opportunities generated by the expenditure of this assistance to low- and very low-income persons, and business concerns owned by low- and very low-income persons, or which employ low- and very low-income persons.

### **§ 135.5 Definitions.**

The terms *Department*, *HUD*, *Indian housing authority (IHA)*, *Public housing agency (PHA)*, and *Secretary* are defined in 24 CFR part 5.

*Annual Contributions Contract (ACC)* means the contract under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (1937 Act) between HUD and the PHA, or between HUD and the IHA, that contains the terms and conditions under which HUD assists the PHA or the IHA in providing decent, safe, and sanitary housing for low income families. The ACC must be in a form prescribed by HUD under which HUD agrees to provide assistance in the development, modernization and/or operation of a low income housing project under the 1937 Act, and the PHA or IHA agrees to develop, modernize and operate the project in compliance with all provisions of the ACC and the 1937 Act, and all HUD regulations and implementing requirements and procedures. (The ACC is not a form of procurement contract.)

*Applicant* means any entity which makes an application for section 3 covered assistance, and includes, but is not limited to, any State, unit of local government, public housing agency, Indian housing authority, Indian tribe, or other public body, public or private nonprofit organization, private agency or institution, mortgagor, developer, limited dividend sponsor, builder, property manager, community housing development organization (CHDO), resident management corporation, resident council, or cooperative association.

*Assistant Secretary* means the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

*Business concern* means a business entity formed in accordance with State law, and which is licensed under State, county or municipal law to engage in the type of business activity for which it was formed.

*Business concern that provides economic opportunities for low- and very low-income persons.* See definition of "section 3 business concern" in this section.

*Contract.* See the definition of "section 3 covered contract" in this section.

*Contractor* means any entity which contracts to perform work generated by the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance, or for work in connection with a section 3 covered project.

*Employment opportunities generated by section 3 covered assistance* means all employment opportunities generated by the expenditure of section 3 covered public and Indian housing assistance (i.e., operating assistance, development assistance and modernization assistance, as described in §135.3(a)(1)). With respect to section 3 covered housing and community development assistance, this term means all employment opportunities arising in connection with section 3 covered projects (as described in §135.3(a)(2)), including management and administrative jobs connected with the section 3 covered project. Management and administrative jobs include architectural, engineering or related professional services required to prepare plans, drawings, specifications, or work write-ups; and jobs directly related to administrative support of these activities, e.g., construction manager, relocation specialist, payroll clerk, etc.

*Housing authority (HA)* means, collectively, public housing agency and Indian housing authority.

*Housing and community development assistance* means any financial assistance provided or otherwise made available through a HUD housing or community development program through any grant, loan, loan guarantee, cooperative agreement, or contract, and includes community development funds in the form of community development block grants, and loans guaranteed under section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Housing and community development assistance does not include financial assistance provided through a contract of insurance or guaranty.

*Housing development* means low-income housing owned, developed, or operated by public housing agencies or Indian housing authorities in accordance with HUD's public and Indian housing program regulations codified in 24 CFR Chapter IX.

*HUD Youthbuild programs* mean programs that receive assistance under subtitle D of Title IV of the National Affordable Housing Act, as amended by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 12899), and provide disadvantaged youth with opportunities for employment, education, leadership development, and training in the construction or rehabilitation of housing for homeless individuals and members of low- and very low-income families.

*Indian tribes* shall have the meaning given this term in 24 CFR part 571.

*JTPA* means the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1579(a)).

*Low-income person.* See the definition of "section 3 resident" in this section.

*Metropolitan area* means a metropolitan statistical area (MSA), as established by the Office of Management and Budget.

*Neighborhood area* means:

(1) For HUD housing programs, a geographical location within the jurisdiction of a unit of general local government (but not the entire jurisdiction) designated in ordinances, or other local documents as a neighborhood, village, or similar geographical designation.

(2) For HUD community development programs, see the definition, if provided, in the regulations for the applicable community development program, or the definition for this term in 24 CFR 570.204(c)(1).

*New hires* mean full-time employees for permanent, temporary or seasonal employment opportunities.

*Nonmetropolitan county* means any county outside of a metropolitan area.

*Other HUD programs* means HUD programs, other than HUD public and Indian housing programs, that provide housing and community development assistance for "section 3 covered projects," as defined in this section.

*Public housing resident* has the meaning given this term in 24 CFR part 963.

*Recipient* means any entity which receives section 3 covered assistance, directly from HUD or from another recipient and includes, but is not limited to, any State, unit of local government, PHA, IHA, Indian tribe, or other public body, public or private nonprofit organization, private agency or institution, mortgagor, developer, limited dividend sponsor, builder, property manager, community housing development organization, resident management corporation, resident council, or cooperative association. Recipient also includes any successor, assignee or transferee of any such entity, but does not include any ultimate beneficiary under the HUD program to which section 3 applies and does not include contractors.

*Section 3* means section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701u).

*Section 3 business concern* means a business concern, as defined in this section—

- (1) That is 51 percent or more owned by section 3 residents; or
- (2) Whose permanent, full-time employees include persons, at least 30 percent of whom are currently section 3 residents, or within three years of the date of first employment with the business concern were section 3 residents; or
- (3) That provides evidence of a commitment to subcontract in excess of 25 percent of the dollar award of all subcontracts to be awarded to business concerns that meet the qualifications set forth in paragraphs (1) or (2) in this definition of “section 3 business concern.”

*Section 3 clause* means the contract provisions set forth in §135.38.

*Section 3 covered activity* means any activity which is funded by section 3 covered assistance public and Indian housing assistance.

*Section 3 covered assistance* means: (1) Public and Indian housing development assistance provided pursuant to section 5 of the 1937 Act;

(2) Public and Indian housing operating assistance provided pursuant to section 9 of the 1937 Act;

(3) Public and Indian housing modernization assistance provided pursuant to section 14 of the 1937 Act;

(4) Assistance provided under any HUD housing or community development program that is expended for work arising in connection with:

(i) Housing rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards, but excluding routine maintenance, repair and replacement);

(ii) Housing construction; or

(iii) Other public construction project (which includes other buildings or improvements, regardless of ownership).

*Section 3 covered contract* means a contract or subcontract (including a professional service contract) awarded by a recipient or contractor for work generated by the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance, or for work arising in connection with a section 3 covered project. “Section 3 covered contracts” do not include contracts awarded under HUD’s procurement program, which are governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulation System (see 48 CFR, Chapter 1). “Section 3 covered contracts” also do not include contracts for the purchase of supplies and materials. However, whenever a contract for materials includes the installation of the materials, the contract constitutes a section 3 covered contract. For example, a contract for the purchase and installation of a furnace would be a section 3 covered contract because the contract is for work (i.e., the installation of the furnace) and thus is covered by section 3.

*Section 3 covered project* means the construction, reconstruction, conversion or rehabilitation of housing (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards), other public construction which includes buildings or improvements (regardless of ownership) assisted with housing or community development assistance.

*Section 3 joint venture.* See §135.40. Section 3 resident means: (1) A public housing resident; or

(2) An individual who resides in the metropolitan area or nonmetropolitan county in which the section 3 covered assistance is expended, and who is:

(i) A *low-income person*, as this term is defined in section 3(b)(2) of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)). Section 3(b)(2) of the 1937 Act defines this term to mean families (including single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 80 per centum of the median income for the area, as determined by the Secretary, with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 80 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of prevailing levels of construction costs or unusually high or low-income families; or

(ii) A *very low-income person*, as this term is defined in section 3(b)(2) of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)). Section 3(b)(2) of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)) defines this term to mean families (including single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 50 per centum of the median family income for the area, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 50 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

(3) A person seeking the training and employment preference provided by section 3 bears the responsibility of providing evidence (if requested) that the person is eligible for the preference.

*Section 8 assistance* means assistance provided under section 8 of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f) pursuant to 24 CFR part 882, subpart G.

*Service area* means the geographical area in which the persons benefitting from the section 3 covered project reside. The service area shall not extend beyond the unit of general local government in which the section 3 covered assistance is expended. In HUD's Indian housing programs, the service area, for IHAs established by an Indian tribe as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power, is limited to the area of tribal jurisdiction.

*Subcontractor* means any entity (other than a person who is an employee of the contractor) which has a contract with a contractor to undertake a portion of the contractor's obligation for the performance of work generated by the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance, or arising in connection with a section 3 covered project.

*Very low-income person.* See the definition of "section 3 resident" in this section.

*Youthbuild programs.* See the definition of "HUD Youthbuild programs" in this section.

[59 FR 33880, June 30, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 5206, Feb. 9, 1996]

### **§ 135.7 Delegation of authority.**

Except as may be otherwise provided in this part, the functions and responsibilities of the Secretary under section 3, and described in this part, are delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. The Assistant Secretary is further authorized to redelegate functions and responsibilities to other employees of HUD; *provided however*, that the authority to issue rules and regulations under this part, which authority is delegated to the Assistant Secretary, may not be redelegated by the Assistant Secretary.

### **§ 135.9 Requirements applicable to HUD NOFAs for section 3 covered programs.**

(a) *Certification of compliance with part 135.* All notices of funding availability (NOFAs) issued by HUD that announce the availability of funding covered by section 3 shall include a provision in the NOFA that notifies applicants that section 3 and the regulations in part 135 are applicable to funding awards made under the NOFA. Additionally the NOFA shall require as an application submission requirement (which may be specified in the NOFA or application kit) a certification by the applicant that the applicant will comply with the regulations in part 135. (For PHAs, this requirement will be met where a PHA Resolution in Support of the Application is submitted.) With respect to application evaluation, HUD will accept an applicant's certification unless there is evidence substantially challenging the certification.

(b) *Statement of purpose in NOFAs.* (1) For competitively awarded assistance in which the grants are for activities administered by an HA, and those activities are anticipated to generate significant training, employment or contracting opportunities, the NOFA must include a statement that one of the purposes of the assistance is to give to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State and local laws and regulations, job training, employment, contracting and other economic opportunities to section 3 residents and section 3 business concerns.

(2) For competitively awarded assistance involving housing rehabilitation, construction or other public construction, where the amount awarded to the applicant may exceed \$200,000, the NOFA must include a statement that one of the purposes of the assistance is to give, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State and local laws and regulations, job training, employment, contracting and other economic opportunities to section 3 residents and section 3 business concerns.

(c) *Section 3 as NOFA evaluation criteria.* Where not otherwise precluded by statute, in the evaluation of applications for the award of assistance, consideration shall be given to the extent to which an applicant has demonstrated that it will train and employ section 3 residents and contract with section 3 business concerns for economic opportunities generated in connection with the assisted project or activity. The evaluation criteria to be utilized, and the rating points to be assigned, will be specified in the NOFA.

### **§ 135.11 Other laws governing training, employment, and contracting.**

Other laws and requirements that are applicable or may be applicable to the economic opportunities generated from the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance include, but are not necessarily limited to those listed in this section.

(a) *Procurement standards for States and local governments (24 CFR 85.36)* —(1) *General.* Nothing in this part 135 prescribes specific methods of procurement. However, neither section 3 nor the requirements of this part 135 supersede the general requirement of 24 CFR 85.36(c) that all procurement transactions be conducted in a competitive manner. Consistent with 24 CFR 85.36(c)(2), section 3 is a Federal statute that expressly encourages, to the maximum extent feasible, a geographic preference in the evaluation of bids or proposals.

(2) *Flexible Subsidy Program.* Multifamily project mortgagors in the Flexible Subsidy Program are not required to utilize the methods of procurement in 24 CFR 85.36(d), and are not permitted to utilize methods of procurement that would result in their award of a contract to a business concern that submits a bid higher than the lowest responsive bid. A multifamily project mortgagor, however, must ensure that, to the greatest extent feasible, the procurement practices it selects provide preference to section 3 business concerns.

(b) *Procurement standards for other recipients (OMB Circular No. A-110).* Nothing in this part prescribes specific methods of procurement for grants and other agreements with institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other nonprofit organizations. Consistent with the requirements set forth in OMB Circular No. A-110, section 3 is a Federal statute that expressly encourages a geographic preference in the evaluation of bids or proposals.

(c) *Federal labor standards provisions.* Certain construction contracts are subject to compliance with the requirement to pay prevailing wages determined under Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a—276a-7) and implementing U.S. Department of Labor regulations in 29 CFR part 5. Additionally, certain HUD-assisted

rehabilitation and maintenance activities on public and Indian housing developments are subject to compliance with the requirement to pay prevailing wage rates, as determined or adopted by HUD, to laborers and mechanics employed in this work. Apprentices and trainees may be utilized on this work only to the extent permitted under either Department of Labor regulations at 29 CFR part 5 or for work subject to HUD-determined prevailing wage rates, HUD policies and guidelines. These requirements include adherence to the wage rates and ratios of apprentices or trainees to journeymen set out in "approved apprenticeship and training programs," as described in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Approved apprenticeship and trainee programs.* Certain apprenticeship and trainee programs have been approved by various Federal agencies. Approved apprenticeship and trainee programs include: an apprenticeship program approved by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training of the Department of Labor, or a State Apprenticeship Agency, or an on-the-job training program approved by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, in accordance with the regulations at 29 CFR part 5; or a training program approved by HUD in accordance with HUD policies and guidelines, as applicable. Participation in an approved apprenticeship program does not, in and of itself, demonstrate compliance with the regulations of this part.

(e) *Compliance with Executive Order 11246.* Certain contractors covered by this part are subject to compliance with Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 12086, and the Department of Labor regulations issued pursuant thereto (41 CFR chapter 60) which provide that no person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in all phases of employment during the performance of Federal or Federally assisted construction contracts.

## **Subpart B—Economic Opportunities for Section 3 Residents and Section 3 Business Concerns**

### **§ 135.30 Numerical goals for meeting the greatest extent feasible requirement.**

(a) *General.* (1) Recipients and covered contractors may demonstrate compliance with the "greatest extent feasible" requirement of section 3 by meeting the numerical goals set forth in this section for providing training, employment, and contracting opportunities to section 3 residents and section 3 business concerns.

(2) The goals established in this section apply to the entire amount of section 3 covered assistance awarded to a recipient in any Federal Fiscal Year (FY), commencing with the first FY following the effective date of this rule.

(3) For recipients that do not engage in training, or hiring, but award contracts to contractors that will engage in training, hiring, and subcontracting, recipients must ensure that, to the greatest extent feasible, contractors will provide training, employment, and contracting opportunities to section 3 residents and section 3 business concerns.

(4) The numerical goals established in this section represent minimum numerical targets.

(b) *Training and employment.* The numerical goals set forth in paragraph (b) of this section apply to new hires. The numerical goals reflect the aggregate hires. Efforts to employ section 3 residents, to the greatest extent feasible, should be made at all job levels.

(1) *Numerical goals for section 3 covered public and Indian housing programs.* Recipients of section 3 covered public and Indian housing assistance (as described in §135.5) and their contractors and subcontractors may demonstrate compliance with this part by committing to employ section 3 residents as:

(i) 10 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1995;

(ii) 20 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one period beginning in FY 1996;

(iii) 30 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for one year period beginning in FY 1997 and continuing thereafter.

(2) *Numerical goals for other HUD programs covered by section 3.* (i) Recipients of section 3 covered housing assistance provided under other HUD programs, and their contractors and subcontractors (unless the contract or subcontract awards do not meet the threshold specified in §135.3(a)(3)) may demonstrate compliance with this part by committing to employ section 3 residents as 10 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for each year over the duration of the section 3 project;

(ii) Where a managing general partner or management agent is affiliated, in a given metropolitan area, with recipients of section 3 covered housing assistance, for an aggregate of 500 or more units in any fiscal year, the managing partner or management agent may demonstrate compliance with this part by committing to employ section 3 residents as:

(A) 10 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1995;

(B) 20 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1996;

(C) 30 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1997, and continuing thereafter.

(3) Recipients of section 3 covered community development assistance, and their contractors and subcontractors (unless the contract or subcontract awards do not meet the threshold specified in §135.3(a)(3)) may demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this part by committing to employ section 3 residents as:

(i) 10 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1995;

(ii) 20 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1996; and

(iii) 30 percent of the aggregate number of new hires for the one year period beginning in FY 1997 and continuing thereafter.

(c) *Contracts.* Numerical goals set forth in paragraph (c) of this section apply to contracts awarded in connection with all section 3 covered projects and section 3 covered activities. Each recipient and contractor and subcontractor (unless the contract or subcontract awards do not meet the threshold specified in §135.3(a)(3)) may demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this part by committing to award to section 3 business concerns:

(1) At least 10 percent of the total dollar amount of all section 3 covered contracts for building trades work for maintenance, repair, modernization or development of public or Indian housing, or for building trades work arising in connection with housing rehabilitation, housing construction and other public construction; and

(2) At least three (3) percent of the total dollar amount of all other section 3 covered contracts.

(d) *Safe harbor and compliance determinations.* (1) In the absence of evidence to the contrary, a recipient that meets the minimum numerical goals set forth in this section will be considered to have complied with the section 3 preference requirements.

(2) In evaluating compliance under subpart D of this part, a recipient that has not met the numerical goals set forth in this section has the burden of demonstrating why it was not feasible to meet the numerical goals set forth in this section. Such justification may include impediments encountered despite actions taken. A recipient or contractor also can indicate other economic opportunities, such as those listed in §135.40, which were provided in its efforts to comply with section 3 and the requirements of this part.

### **§ 135.32 Responsibilities of the recipient.**

Each recipient has the responsibility to comply with section 3 in its own operations, and ensure compliance in the operations of its contractors and subcontractors. This responsibility includes but may not be necessarily limited to:

(a) Implementing procedures designed to notify section 3 residents about training and employment opportunities generated by section 3 covered assistance and section 3 business concerns about contracting opportunities generated by section 3 covered assistance;

(b) Notifying potential contractors for section 3 covered projects of the requirements of this part, and incorporating the section 3 clause set forth in §135.38 in all solicitations and contracts.

(c) Facilitating the training and employment of section 3 residents and the award of contracts to section 3 business concerns by undertaking activities such as described in the Appendix to this part, as appropriate, to reach the goals set forth in §135.30. Recipients, at their own discretion, may establish reasonable numerical goals for the training and employment of section 3 residents and contract award to section 3 business concerns that exceed those specified in §135.30;

(d) Assisting and actively cooperating with the Assistant Secretary in obtaining the compliance of contractors and subcontractors with the requirements of this part, and refraining from entering into any contract with any contractor where the recipient has notice or knowledge that the contractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135.

(e) Documenting actions taken to comply with the requirements of this part, the results of actions taken and impediments, if any.

(f) A State or county which distributes funds for section 3 covered assistance to units of local governments, to the greatest extent feasible, must attempt to reach the numerical goals set forth in 135.30 regardless of the number of local governments receiving funds from the section 3 covered assistance which meet the thresholds for applicability set forth at 135.3. The State or county must inform units of local government to whom funds are distributed of the requirements of this part; assist local governments and their contractors in meeting the requirements and objectives of this part; and monitor the performance of local governments with respect to the objectives and requirements of this part.

### **§ 135.34 Preference for section 3 residents in training and employment opportunities.**

(a) *Order of providing preference.* Recipients, contractors and subcontractors shall direct their efforts to provide, to the greatest extent feasible, training and employment opportunities generated from the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance to section 3 residents in the order of priority provided in paragraph (a) of this section.

(1) *Public and Indian housing programs.* In public and Indian housing programs, efforts shall be directed to provide training and employment opportunities to section 3 residents in the following order of priority:

(i) Residents of the housing development or developments for which the section 3 covered assistance is expended (category 1 residents);

(ii) Residents of other housing developments managed by the HA that is expending the section 3 covered housing assistance (category 2 residents);

(iii) Participants in HUD Youthbuild programs being carried out in the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the section 3 covered assistance is expended (category 3 residents);

(iv) Other section 3 residents.

(2) *Housing and community development programs.* In housing and community development programs, priority consideration shall be given, where feasible, to:

(i) Section 3 residents residing in the service area or neighborhood in which the section 3 covered project is located (collectively, referred to as category 1 residents); and

(ii) Participants in HUD Youthbuild programs (category 2 residents).

(iii) Where the section 3 project is assisted under the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 *et seq.* ), homeless persons residing in the service area or neighborhood in which the section 3 covered project is located shall be given the highest priority;

(iv) Other section 3 residents.

(3) Recipients of housing assistance programs administered by the Assistant Secretary for Housing may, at their own discretion, provide preference to residents of the housing development receiving the section 3 covered assistance within the service area or neighborhood where the section 3 covered project is located.

(4) Recipients of community development programs may, at their own discretion, provide priority to recipients of government assistance for housing, including recipients of certificates or vouchers under the Section 8 housing assistance program, within the service area or neighborhood where the section 3 covered project is located.

(b) *Eligibility for preference.* A section 3 resident seeking the preference in training and employment provided by this part shall certify, or submit evidence to the recipient contractor or subcontractor, if requested, that the person is a section 3 resident, as defined in §135.5. (An example of evidence of eligibility for the preference is evidence of receipt of public assistance, or evidence of participation in a public assistance program.)

(c) *Eligibility for employment.* Nothing in this part shall be construed to require the employment of a section 3 resident who does not meet the qualifications of the position to be filled.

### **§ 135.36 Preference for section 3 business concerns in contracting opportunities.**

(a) *Order of providing preference.* Recipients, contractors and subcontractors shall direct their efforts to award section 3 covered contracts, to the greatest extent feasible, to section 3 business concerns in the order of priority provided in paragraph (a) of this section.

(1) *Public and Indian housing programs.* In public and Indian housing programs, efforts shall be directed to award contracts to section 3 business concerns in the following order of priority:

(i) Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by residents of the housing development or developments for which the section 3 covered assistance is expended, or whose full-time, permanent workforce includes 30 percent of these persons as employees (category 1 businesses);

(ii) Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by residents of other housing developments or developments managed by the HA that is expending the section 3 covered assistance, or whose full-time, permanent workforce includes 30 percent of these persons as employees (category 2 businesses); or

(iii) HUD Youthbuild programs being carried out in the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the section 3 covered assistance is expended (category 3 businesses).

(iv) Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by section 3 residents, or whose permanent, full-time workforce includes no less than 30 percent section 3 residents (category 4 businesses), or that subcontract in excess of 25 percent of the total amount of subcontracts to business concerns identified in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section.

(2) *Housing and community development programs.* In housing and community development programs, priority consideration shall be given, where feasible, to:

(i) Section 3 business concerns that provide economic opportunities for section 3 residents in the service area or neighborhood in which the section 3 covered project is located (category 1 businesses); and

(ii) Applicants (as this term is defined in 42 U.S.C. 12899) selected to carry out HUD Youthbuild programs (category 2 businesses);

(iii) Other section 3 business concerns.

(b) *Eligibility for preference.* A business concern seeking to qualify for a section 3 contracting preference shall certify or submit evidence, if requested, that the business concern is a section 3 business concern as defined in §135.5.

(c) *Ability to complete contract.* A section 3 business concern seeking a contract or a subcontract shall submit evidence to the recipient, contractor, or subcontractor (as applicable), if requested, sufficient to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the party awarding the contract that the business concern is responsible and has the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract. (The ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract is required of all contractors and subcontractors subject to the procurement standards of 24 CFR 85.36 (see 24 CFR 85.36(b)(8)).) This regulation requires consideration of, among other factors, the potential contractor's record in complying with public policy requirements. Section 3 compliance is a matter properly considered as part of this determination.

### **§ 135.38 Section 3 clause.**

All section 3 covered contracts shall include the following clause (referred to as the section 3 clause):

A. The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.

B. The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135, which implement section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the part 135 regulations.

C. The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each; and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions; and the anticipated date the work shall begin.

D. The contractor agrees to include this section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135.

E. The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 CFR part 135.

F. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.

G. With respect to work performed in connection with section 3 covered Indian housing assistance, section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450e) also applies to the work to be performed under this contract. Section 7(b) requires that to the greatest extent feasible (i) preference and opportunities for training and employment shall be given to Indians, and (ii) preference in the award of contracts and subcontracts shall be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned Economic Enterprises. Parties to this contract that are subject to the provisions of section 3 and section 7(b) agree to comply with section 3 to the maximum extent feasible, but not in derogation of compliance with section 7(b).

#### **§ 135.40 Providing other economic opportunities.**

(a) *General.* In accordance with the findings of the Congress, as stated in section 3, that other economic opportunities offer an effective means of empowering low-income persons, a recipient is encouraged to undertake efforts to provide to low-income persons economic opportunities other than training, employment, and contract awards, in connection with section 3 covered assistance.

(b) *Other training and employment related opportunities.* Other economic opportunities to train and employ section 3 residents include, but need not be limited to, use of "upward mobility", "bridge" and trainee positions to fill vacancies; hiring section 3 residents in management and maintenance positions within other housing developments; and hiring section 3 residents in part-time positions.

(c) *Other business related economic opportunities.* (l) A recipient or contractor may provide economic opportunities to establish, stabilize or expand section 3 business concerns, including micro-enterprises. Such opportunities include, but are not limited to the formation of section 3 joint ventures, financial support for affiliating with franchise development, use of labor only contracts for building trades, purchase of supplies and materials from housing authority resident-owned businesses, purchase of materials and supplies from PHA resident-owned businesses and use of procedures under 24 CFR part 963 regarding HA contracts to HA resident-owned businesses. A recipient or contractor may employ these methods directly or may provide incentives to non-section 3 businesses to utilize such methods to provide other economic opportunities to low-income persons.

(2) A *section 3 joint venture* means an association of business concerns, one of which qualifies as a section 3 business concern, formed by written joint venture agreement to engage in and carry out a specific business venture for which purpose the business concerns combine their efforts, resources, and skills for joint profit, but not necessarily on a continuing or permanent basis for conducting business generally, and for which the section 3 business concern:

(i) Is responsible for a clearly defined portion of the work to be performed and holds management responsibilities in the joint venture; and

(ii) Performs at least 25 percent of the work and is contractually entitled to compensation proportionate to its work.

#### **Subpart C [Reserved]**

#### **Subpart D—Complaint and Compliance Review**

## **§ 135.70 General.**

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of this subpart is to establish the procedures for handling complaints alleging noncompliance with the regulations of this part, and the procedures governing the Assistant Secretary's review of a recipient's or contractor's compliance with the regulations in this part.

(b) *Definitions.* For purposes of this subpart:

(1) *Complaint* means an allegation of noncompliance with regulations of this part made in the form described in §135.76(d).

(2) *Complainant* means the party which files a complaint with the Assistant Secretary alleging that a recipient or contractor has failed or refused to comply with the regulations in this part.

(3) *Noncompliance with section 3* means failure by a recipient or contractor to comply with the requirements of this part.

(4) *Respondent* means the recipient or contractor against which a complaint of noncompliance has been filed. The term "recipient" shall have the meaning set forth in §135.7, which includes PHA and IHA.

## **§ 135.72 Cooperation in achieving compliance.**

(a) The Assistant Secretary recognizes that the success of ensuring that section 3 residents and section 3 business concerns have the opportunity to apply for jobs and to bid for contracts generated by covered HUD financial assistance depends upon the cooperation and assistance of HUD recipients and their contractors and subcontractors. All recipients shall cooperate fully and promptly with the Assistant Secretary in section 3 compliance reviews, in investigations of allegations of noncompliance made under §135.76, and with the distribution and collection of data and information that the Assistant Secretary may require in connection with achieving the economic objectives of section 3.

(b) The recipient shall refrain from entering into a contract with any contractor after notification to the recipient by HUD that the contractor has been found in violation of the regulations in this part. The provisions of 24 CFR part 24 apply to the employment, engagement of services, awarding of contracts or funding of any contractors or subcontractors during any period of debarment, suspension or otherwise ineligible status.

## **§ 135.74 Section 3 compliance review procedures.**

(a) *Compliance reviews by Assistant Secretary.* The Assistant Secretary shall periodically conduct section 3 compliance reviews of selected recipients and contractors to determine whether these recipients are in compliance with the regulations in this part.

(b) *Form of compliance review.* A section 3 compliance review shall consist of a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the recipient's or contractor's compliance with the requirements and obligations imposed by the regulations of this part, including an analysis of the extent to which section 3 residents have been hired and section 3 business concerns have been awarded contracts as a result of the methods undertaken by the recipient to achieve the employment, contracting and other economic objectives of section 3.

(c) *Where compliance review reveals noncompliance with section 3 by recipient or contractor.* Where the section 3 compliance review reveals that a recipient or contractor has not complied with section 3, the Assistant Secretary shall notify the recipient or contractor of its specific deficiencies in compliance with the regulations of this part, and shall advise the recipient or contractor of the means by which these deficiencies may be corrected. HUD shall conduct a follow-up review with the recipient or contractor to ensure that action is being taken to correct the deficiencies.

(d) *Continuing noncompliance by recipient or contractor.* A continuing failure or refusal by the recipient or contractor to comply with the regulations in this part may result in the application of sanctions specified in the contract through which HUD assistance is provided, or the application of sanctions specified in the

regulations governing the HUD program under which HUD financial assistance is provided. HUD will notify the recipient of any continuing failure or refusal by the contractor to comply with the regulations in this part for possible action under any procurement contract between the recipient and the contractor. Debarment, suspension and limited denial of participation pursuant to HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 24, where appropriate, may be applied to the recipient or the contractor.

(e) *Conducting compliance review before the award of assistance.* Section 3 compliance reviews may be conducted before the award of contracts, and especially where the Assistant Secretary has reasonable grounds to believe that the recipient or contractor will be unable or unwilling to comply with the regulations in this part.

(f) *Consideration of complaints during compliance review.* Complaints alleging noncompliance with section 3, as provided in §135.76, may also be considered during any compliance review conducted to determine the recipient's conformance with regulations in this part.

### **§ 135.76 Filing and processing complaints.**

(a) *Who may file a complaint.* The following individuals and business concerns may, personally or through an authorized representative, file with the Assistant Secretary a complaint alleging noncompliance with section 3:

(1) Any section 3 resident on behalf of himself or herself, or as a representative of persons similarly situated, seeking employment, training or other economic opportunities generated from the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance with a recipient or contractor, or by a representative who is not a section 3 resident but who represents one or more section 3 residents;

(2) Any section 3 business concern on behalf of itself, or as a representative of other section 3 business concerns similarly situated, seeking contract opportunities generated from the expenditure of section 3 covered assistance from a recipient or contractor, or by an individual representative of section 3 business concerns.

(b) *Where to file a complaint.* A complaint must be filed with the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC, 20410.

(c) *Time of filing.* (1) A complaint must be received not later than 180 days from the date of the action or omission upon which the complaint is based, unless the time for filing is extended by the Assistant Secretary for good cause shown.

(2) Where a complaint alleges noncompliance with section 3 and the regulations of this part that is continuing, as manifested in a number of incidents of noncompliance, the complaint will be timely if filed within 180 days of the last alleged occurrence of noncompliance.

(3) Where a complaint contains incomplete information, the Assistant Secretary shall request the needed information from the complainant. In the event this information is not furnished to the Assistant Secretary within sixty (60) days of the date of the request, the complaint may be closed.

(d) *Contents of complaint*—(1) *Written complaints.* Each complaint must be in writing, signed by the complainant, and include:

(i) The complainant's name and address;

(ii) The name and address of the respondent;

(iii) A description of the acts or omissions by the respondent that is sufficient to inform the Assistant Secretary of the nature and date of the alleged noncompliance.

(iv) A complainant may provide information to be contained in a complaint by telephone to HUD or any HUD Field Office, and HUD will reduce the information provided by telephone to writing on the prescribed complaint form and send the form to the complainant for signature.

(2) *Amendment of complaint.* Complaints may be reasonably and fairly amended at any time. Such amendments may include, but are not limited to, amendments to cure, technical defects or omissions, including failure to sign or affirm a complaint, to clarify or amplify the allegations in a complaint, or to join additional or substitute respondents. Except for the purposes of notifying respondents, amended complaints will be considered as having been made as of the original filing date.

(e) *Resolution of complaint by recipient.* (1) Within ten (10) days of timely filing of a complaint that contains complete information (in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section), the Assistant Secretary shall determine whether the complainant alleges an action or omission by a recipient or the recipient's contractor that if proven qualifies as noncompliance with section 3. If a determination is made that there is an allegation of noncompliance with section 3, the complaint shall be sent to the recipient for resolution.

(2) If the recipient believes that the complaint lacks merit, the recipient must notify the Assistant Secretary in writing of this recommendation with supporting reasons, within 30 days of the date of receipt of the complaint. The determination that a complaint lacks merit is reserved to the Assistant Secretary.

(3) If the recipient determines that there is merit to the complaint, the recipient will have sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of the complaint to resolve the matter with the complainant. At the expiration of the 60-day period, the recipient must notify the Assistant Secretary in writing whether a resolution of the complaint has been reached. If resolution has been reached, the notification must be signed by both the recipient and the complainant, and must summarize the terms of the resolution reached between the two parties.

(4) Any request for an extension of the 60-day period by the recipient must be submitted in writing to the Assistant Secretary, and must include a statement explaining the need for the extension.

(5) If the recipient is unable to resolve the complaint within the 60-day period (or more if extended by the Assistant Secretary), the complaint shall be referred to the Assistant Secretary for handling.

(f) *Informal resolution of complaint by Assistant Secretary*—(1) *Dismissal of complaint.* Upon receipt of the recipient's written recommendation that there is no merit to the complaint, or upon failure of the recipient and complainant to reach resolution, the Assistant Secretary shall review the complaint to determine whether it presents a valid allegation of noncompliance with section 3. The Assistant Secretary may conduct further investigation if deemed necessary. Where the complaint fails to present a valid allegation of noncompliance with section 3, the Assistant Secretary will dismiss the complaint without further action. The Assistant Secretary shall notify the complainant of the dismissal of the complaint and the reasons for the dismissal.

(2) *Informal resolution.* Where the allegations in a complaint on their face, or as amplified by the statements of the complainant, present a valid allegation of noncompliance with section 3, the Assistant Secretary will attempt, through informal methods, to obtain a voluntary and just resolution of the complaint. Where attempts to resolve the complaint informally fail, the Assistant Secretary will impose a resolution on the recipient and complainant. Any resolution imposed by the Assistant Secretary will be in accordance with requirements and procedures concerning the imposition of sanctions or resolutions as set forth in the regulations governing the HUD program under which the section 3 covered assistance was provided.

(3) *Effective date of informal resolution.* The imposed resolution will become effective and binding at the expiration of 15 days following notification to recipient and complainant by certified mail of the imposed resolution, unless either party appeals the resolution before the expiration of the 15 days. Any appeal shall be in writing to the Secretary and shall include the basis for the appeal.

(g) *Sanctions.* Sanctions that may be imposed on recipients that fail to comply with the regulations of this part include debarment, suspension and limited denial of participation in HUD programs.

(h) *Investigation of complaint.* The Assistant Secretary reserves the right to investigate a complaint directly when, in the Assistant Secretary's discretion, the investigation would further the purposes of section 3 and this part.

(i) *Intimidatory or retaliatory acts prohibited.* No recipient or other person shall intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any person or business because the person or business has made a complaint, testified, assisted or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this part. The identity of complainants shall be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of this part, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing or judicial proceeding arising thereunder.

(j) *Judicial relief.* Nothing in this subpart D precludes a section 3 resident or section 3 business concerning from exercising the right, which may otherwise be available, to seek redress directly through judicial procedures.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2529–0043)

## **Subpart E—Reporting and Recordkeeping**

### **§ 135.90 Reporting.**

Each recipient which receives directly from HUD financial assistance that is subject to the requirements of this part shall submit to the Assistant Secretary an annual report in such form and with such information as the Assistant Secretary may request, for the purpose of determining the effectiveness of section 3. Where the program providing the section 3 covered assistance requires submission of an annual performance report, the section 3 report will be submitted with that annual performance report. If the program providing the section 3 covered assistance does not require an annual performance report, the section 3 report is to be submitted by January 10 of each year or within 10 days of project completion, whichever is earlier. All reports submitted to HUD in accordance with the requirements of this part will be made available to the public.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2529–0043)

### **§ 135.92 Recordkeeping and access to records.**

HUD shall have access to all records, reports, and other documents or items of the recipient that are maintained to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this part, or that are maintained in accordance with the regulations governing the specific HUD program under which section 3 covered assistance is provided or otherwise made available to the recipient or contractor.

## **Appendix to Part 135**

### *1. Examples of Efforts To Offer Training and Employment Opportunities to Section 3 Residents*

- (1) Entering into “first source” hiring agreements with organizations representing Section 3 residents.
- (2) Sponsoring a HUD-certified “Step-Up” employment and training program for section 3 residents.
- (3) Establishing training programs, which are consistent with the requirements of the Department of Labor, for public and Indian housing residents and other section 3 residents in the building trades.
- (4) Advertising the training and employment positions by distributing flyers (which identify the positions to be filled, the qualifications required, and where to obtain additional information about the application process) to every occupied dwelling unit in the housing development or developments where category 1 or category 2 persons (as these terms are defined in §135.34) reside.

(5) Advertising the training and employment positions by posting flyers (which identify the positions to be filled, the qualifications required, and where to obtain additional information about the application process) in the common areas or other prominent areas of the housing development or developments. For HAs, post such advertising in the housing development or developments where category 1 or category 2 persons reside; for all other recipients, post such advertising in the housing development or developments and transitional housing in the neighborhood or service area of the section 3 covered project.

(6) Contacting resident councils, resident management corporations, or other resident organizations, where they exist, in the housing development or developments where category 1 or category 2 persons reside, and community organizations in HUD-assisted neighborhoods, to request the assistance of these organizations in notifying residents of the training and employment positions to be filled.

(7) Sponsoring (scheduling, advertising, financing or providing in-kind services) a job informational meeting to be conducted by an HA or contractor representative or representatives at a location in the housing development or developments where category 1 or category 2 persons reside or in the neighborhood or service area of the section 3 covered project.

(8) Arranging assistance in conducting job interviews and completing job applications for residents of the housing development or developments where category 1 or category 2 persons reside and in the neighborhood or service area in which a section 3 project is located.

(9) Arranging for a location in the housing development or developments where category 1 persons reside, or the neighborhood or service area of the project, where job applications may be delivered to and collected by a recipient or contractor representative or representatives.

(10) Conducting job interviews at the housing development or developments where category 1 or category 2 persons reside, or at a location within the neighborhood or service area of the section 3 covered project.

(11) Contacting agencies administering HUD Youthbuild programs, and requesting their assistance in recruiting HUD Youthbuild program participants for the HA's or contractor's training and employment positions.

(12) Consulting with State and local agencies administering training programs funded through JTPA or JOBS, probation and parole agencies, unemployment compensation programs, community organizations and other officials or organizations to assist with recruiting Section 3 residents for the HA's or contractor's training and employment positions.

(13) Advertising the jobs to be filled through the local media, such as community television networks, newspapers of general circulation, and radio advertising.

(14) Employing a job coordinator, or contracting with a business concern that is licensed in the field of job placement (preferably one of the section 3 business concerns identified in part 135), that will undertake, on behalf of the HA, other recipient or contractor, the efforts to match eligible and qualified section 3 residents with the training and employment positions that the HA or contractor intends to fill.

(15) For an HA, employing section 3 residents directly on either a permanent or a temporary basis to perform work generated by section 3 assistance. (This type of employment is referred to as "force account labor" in HUD's Indian housing regulations. See 24 CFR 905.102, and §905.201(a)(6).)

(16) Where there are more qualified section 3 residents than there are positions to be filled, maintaining a file of eligible qualified section 3 residents for future employment positions.

(17) Undertaking job counseling, education and related programs in association with local educational institutions.

(18) Undertaking such continued job training efforts as may be necessary to ensure the continued employment of section 3 residents previously hired for employment opportunities.

(19) After selection of bidders but prior to execution of contracts, incorporating into the contract a negotiated provision for a specific number of public housing or other section 3 residents to be trained or employed on the section 3 covered assistance.

(20) Coordinating plans and implementation of economic development (e.g., job training and preparation, business development assistance for residents) with the planning for housing and community development.

## *II. Examples of Efforts To Award Contracts to Section 3 Business Concerns*

(1) Utilizing procurement procedures for section 3 business concerns similar to those provided in 24 CFR part 905 for business concerns owned by Native Americans (see section III of this Appendix).

(2) In determining the responsibility of potential contractors, consider their record of section 3 compliance as evidenced by past actions and their current plans for the pending contract.

(3) Contacting business assistance agencies, minority contractors associations and community organizations to inform them of contracting opportunities and requesting their assistance in identifying section 3 businesses which may solicit bids or proposals for contracts for work in connection with section 3 covered assistance.

(4) Advertising contracting opportunities by posting notices, which provide general information about the work to be contracted and where to obtain additional information, in the common areas or other prominent areas of the housing development or developments owned and managed by the HA.

(5) For HAs, contacting resident councils, resident management corporations, or other resident organizations, where they exist, and requesting their assistance in identifying category 1 and category 2 business concerns.

(6) Providing written notice to all known section 3 business concerns of the contracting opportunities. This notice should be in sufficient time to allow the section 3 business concerns to respond to the bid invitations or request for proposals.

(7) Following up with section 3 business concerns that have expressed interest in the contracting opportunities by contacting them to provide additional information on the contracting opportunities.

(8) Coordinating pre-bid meetings at which section 3 business concerns could be informed of upcoming contracting and subcontracting opportunities.

(9) Carrying out workshops on contracting procedures and specific contract opportunities in a timely manner so that section 3 business concerns can take advantage of upcoming contracting opportunities, with such information being made available in languages other than English where appropriate.

(10) Advising section 3 business concerns as to where they may seek assistance to overcome limitations such as inability to obtain bonding, lines of credit, financing, or insurance.

(11) Arranging solicitations, times for the presentation of bids, quantities, specifications, and delivery schedules in ways to facilitate the participation of section 3 business concerns.

(12) Where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate participation by section 3 business concerns.

(13) Contacting agencies administering HUD Youthbuild programs, and notifying these agencies of the contracting opportunities.

(14) Advertising the contracting opportunities through trade association papers and newsletters, and through the local media, such as community television networks, newspapers of general circulation, and radio advertising.

(15) Developing a list of eligible section 3 business concerns.

(16) For HAs, participating in the "Contracting with Resident-Owned Businesses" program provided under 24 CFR part 963.

(17) Establishing or sponsoring programs designed to assist residents of public or Indian housing in the creation and development of resident-owned businesses.

(18) Establishing numerical goals (number of awards and dollar amount of contracts) for award of contracts to section 3 business concerns.

(19) Supporting businesses which provide economic opportunities to low income persons by linking them to the support services available through the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Department of Commerce and comparable agencies at the State and local levels.

(20) Encouraging financial institutions, in carrying out their responsibilities under the Community Reinvestment Act, to provide no or low interest loans for providing working capital and other financial business needs.

(21) Actively supporting joint ventures with section 3 business concerns.

(22) Actively supporting the development or maintenance of business incubators which assist Section 3 business concerns.

### *III. Examples of Procurement Procedures That Provide for Preference for Section 3 Business Concerns*

This Section III provides specific procedures that may be followed by recipients and contractors (collectively, referred to as the "contracting party") for implementing the section 3 contracting preference for each of the competitive procurement methods authorized in 24 CFR 85.36(d).

(1) *Small Purchase Procedures.* For section 3 covered contracts aggregating no more than \$25,000, the methods set forth in this paragraph (1) or the more formal procedures set forth in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Section III may be utilized.

(i) *Solicitation.* (A) Quotations may be solicited by telephone, letter or other informal procedure provided that the manner of solicitation provides for participation by a reasonable number of competitive sources. At the time of solicitation, the parties must be informed of:

—the section 3 covered contract to be awarded with sufficient specificity;

—the time within which quotations must be submitted; and

—the information that must be submitted with each quotation.

(B) If the method described in paragraph (i)(A) is utilized, there must be an attempt to obtain quotations from a minimum of three qualified sources in order to promote competition. Fewer than three quotations are acceptable when the contracting party has attempted, but has been unable, to obtain a sufficient number of competitive quotations. In unusual circumstances, the contracting party may accept the sole quotation received in response to a solicitation provided the price is reasonable. In all cases, the contracting party shall document the circumstances when it has been unable to obtain at least three quotations.

(ii) *Award.* (A) Where the section 3 covered contract is to be awarded based upon the lowest price, the contract shall be awarded to the qualified section 3 business concern with the lowest responsive quotation, if it is reasonable and no more than 10 percent higher than the quotation of the lowest responsive quotation from any qualified source. If no responsive quotation by a qualified section 3 business concern is within 10 percent of the lowest responsive quotation from any qualified source, the award shall be made to the source with the lowest quotation.

(B) Where the section 3 covered contract is to be awarded based on factors other than price, a request for quotations shall be issued by developing the particulars of the solicitation, including a rating system for the assignment of points to evaluate the merits of each quotation. The solicitation shall identify all factors to be considered, including price or cost. The rating system shall provide for a range of 15 to 25 percent of the total number of available rating points to be set aside for the provision of preference for section 3 business concerns. The purchase order shall be awarded to the responsible firm whose quotation is the most advantageous, considering price and all other factors specified in the rating system.

(2) *Procurement by sealed bids (Invitations for Bids).* Preference in the award of section 3 covered contracts that are awarded under a sealed bid (IFB) process may be provided as follows:

(i) Bids shall be solicited from all businesses (section 3 business concerns, and non-section 3 business concerns). An award shall be made to the qualified section 3 business concern with the highest priority ranking and with the lowest responsive bid if that bid—

(A) is within the maximum total contract price established in the contracting party's budget for the specific project for which bids are being taken, and

(B) is not more than "X" higher than the total bid price of the lowest responsive bid from any responsible bidder. "X" is determined as follows:

	x=lesser of:
When the lowest responsive bid is less than \$100,000	10% of that bid or \$9,000.
When the lowest responsive bid is:	
At least \$100,000, but less than \$200,000	9% of that bid, or \$16,000.
At least \$200,000, but less than \$300,000	8% of that bid, or \$21,000.
At least \$300,000, but less than \$400,000	7% of that bid, or \$24,000.
At least \$400,000, but less than \$500,000	6% of that bid, or \$25,000.
At least \$500,000, but less than \$1 million	5% of that bid, or \$40,000.
At least \$1 million, but less than \$2 million	4% of that bid, or \$60,000.
At least \$2 million, but less than \$4 million	3% of that bid, or \$80,000.
At least \$4 million, but less than \$7 million	2% of that bid, or \$105,000.
\$7 million or more	1 1/2% of the lowest responsive bid, with no dollar limit.

(ii) If no responsive bid by a section 3 business concern meets the requirements of paragraph (2)(i) of this section, the contract shall be awarded to a responsible bidder with the lowest responsive bid.

(3) *Procurement under the competitive proposals method of procurement (Request for Proposals (RFP)).* (i) For contracts and subcontracts awarded under the competitive proposals method of procurement (24 CFR 85.36(d)(3)), a Request for Proposals (RFP) shall identify all evaluation factors (and their relative importance) to be used to rate proposals.

(ii) One of the evaluation factors shall address both the preference for section 3 business concerns and the acceptability of the strategy for meeting the greatest extent feasible requirement (section 3 strategy), as disclosed in proposals submitted by all business concerns (section 3 and non-section 3 business concerns). This factor shall provide for a range of 15 to 25 percent of the total number of available points to be set aside for the evaluation of these two components.

(iii) The component of this evaluation factor designed to address the preference for section 3 business concerns must establish a preference for these business concerns in the order of priority ranking as described in 24 CFR 135.36.

(iv) With respect to the second component (the acceptability of the section 3 strategy), the RFP shall require the disclosure of the contractor's section 3 strategy to comply with the section 3 training and employment preference, or contracting preference, or both, if applicable. A determination of the contractor's responsibility will include the submission of an acceptable section 3 strategy. The contract award shall be made to the responsible firm (either section 3 or non-section 3 business concern) whose proposal is determined most advantageous, considering price and all other factors specified in the RFP.