



Universal Notice Briefing

August 2024

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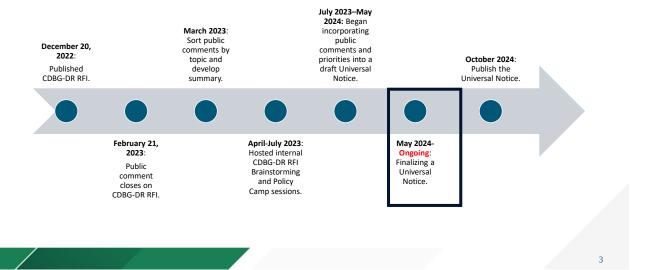


The Goals of the Universal Notice

- The Office of Disaster Recovery's Universal Notice aims to:
 - · Expedite long-term resilient recovery,
 - Reduce or eliminate barriers for impacted beneficiaries,
 - · Ensure equitable community recovery, and
 - Simplify compliance and reduce administrative burden for CDBG-DR grantees.



CDBG-DR RFI and Universal Notice Timeline



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How did ODR get to Universal Notice V10?

- Stakeholders asked HUD to:
 - Establish a presence sooner in the recovery process
 - Announce CDBG-DR allocations sooner
 - Align cross-cutting requirements with other federal agencies
 - Simplify and reduce CDBG-DR requirements
 - Alleviate duplication of benefits requirements for LMI households
 - Define key terms used in the notice
- ODR worked with our internal crosscutting partners (FHEO, OEE, RRED, OGC) throughout the process.



High Level Overview of the Universal Notice

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ODR Establishes a New Process to Expedite Access to CDBG-DR funds for Grantees and Disaster Survivors



Phase 1: The Action Plan



Phase 2:
Evaluation of
Management and
Oversight of Funds
("The Certifications")



The Implementation of Universal Notice Requirements

Phase 3:

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- 1. Allow Rental Assistance for 24 months
- 2. Create a new eligible activity for Emergency Assistance and allow for reimbursement for LMI persons only
- 3. Explicitly allow the payment of insurance premiums as an eligible activity
- 4. Allow lump sum payments when relocation assistance is needed
- Align with FEMA requirements when possible (e.g., building standards/codes, procurement); provided a clarifying note on "proof of ownership" and a comprehensive list of possible ways to seek documentation

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New Policy to Improve the Disaster Survivor's Experience



- 6. Prohibit involuntary buyouts and encourage community driven buyout programs
- 7. Exempt certain activities from the Public Service Cap (i.e. interim mortgage assistance, rental assistance, emergency assistance/reimbursement, and payment of insurance premiums)
- 8. Establish new data collection and equity measures
- 9. Added new eligible activities that support local disaster preparedness and resilience efforts (e.g., privately owned shelters, buildings that host the general conduct of government)
- 10. Increased disaster survivors' access to information by requiring grantee to share information through social media and application status on their disaster recovery websites



Next Steps

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Universal Notice Publication Timeline

Publishing the Notice:

- Completes Departmental Clearance
- Routes through an expedited OIRA review
- Publishes in the Federal Register in October 2024

Training and Education:

 ODR will publish supplemental materials on HUD.gov and will host a Universal Notice Webinar Series

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Thank You!

If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to ODR's Policy Division at ODRPolicyDivision@hud.gov.

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