

operations and problems of public and Indian housing developments. The end result will be more effective program activities that make more efficient use of program funds. This result is expected because it draws upon and combines the expertise of PHA and IHA applicants with respect to the operations and problems of public and Indian housing developments, and the expertise of other entities with respect to designing and implementing youth activities.

(2) Eligible Activities

Youth Sports Program funds may be used to assist in carrying out sports, cultural, recreational, educational or other activities for youth in any of the following manners:

(i) Acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of community centers, parks, or playgrounds is an eligible activity under the Youth Sports Program.

(A) Acquisition, construction or rehabilitation costs shall not be approved unless the applicant demonstrates the need for the type of facilities to be assisted by the grant (Section III.(a)(3) of this NOFA).

(B) Facilities that receive Youth Sports funding must be used primarily for youth from the public or Indian housing developments in which the funded facility is operated (Section III.(a)(2)(ii) and III.(a)(10)(iii) of this NOFA).

(C) Facilities (community centers, parks, or playgrounds) acquired, constructed, or rehabilitated under this program must be on or adjacent to the premises of the public housing development identified in the application for assistance under this program. In the case of Indian Housing Authorities, the applicant must specify how youth from IHA developments will have access to the facility, since IHAs often cover large areas (Section III.(a)(9) of this NOFA).

(D) Facilities receiving Youth Sports funding must comply with any applicable local or tribal building requirements for recreational facilities (Section III.(a)(2)(iii) of this NOFA).

(E) Facilities receiving Youth Sports funding must be used for Youth Sports activities commensurate with the extent of the Youth Sports funding. For example, if a facility's operation is funded 60 percent by a Youth Sports grant, then it must be used at least 60 percent for Youth Sports activities.

(F) In accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR 8.21, facilities should be designed and constructed to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with handicaps. Alterations to existing facilities shall, to the

maximum extent feasible, make them readily accessible to and usable by individuals with handicaps.

(G) In accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR 8.20, no qualified applicant with handicaps shall, because a recipient's facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by individuals with handicaps, be denied the benefit of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in the program.

(ii) Redesigning or modifying public spaces in public or Indian housing developments to provide increased utilization of the areas by Youth Sports activities is an eligible activity under this program.

(A) The construction of sports facilities on public or Indian housing property to implement Youth Sports activities is permitted under this program. These facilities may include, but not be limited to, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, football fields, tutoring centers, swimming pools, soccer fields, public or Indian housing community centers, and tennis courts.

(iii) Provision of public services, including salaries and expenses for staff of youth sports programs, cultural activities, transportation costs, educational programs relating to drug abuse, and sports and recreation equipment are eligible activities under this program.

(A) Educational programs for youth relating to illegal drug use are permitted under this section. The program must be formally organized and provide the knowledge and skills youth need to make informed decisions on the potential and immediate dangers of drug abuse and involvement with illegal drugs. Grantees may contract with drug education professionals to provide the appropriate training or workshops. These educational programs may be part of organized sports activities or other eligible youth activities.

(B) Activities providing an economic/ educational orientation for Youth Sports Program participants are eligible for funding as public services. These activities must provide, for public or Indian housing youth, the opportunities for interaction with, or referral to, higher educational or vocational institutions, and develop the skills of program participants to pursue educational, vocational, and economic goals. These activities may also provide public or Indian housing youth the opportunity to interact with private sector businesses in their community with the purpose of promoting the development of educational, vocational,

and economic goals in public or Indian housing youth.

(C) The cost of the initial purchase of sports and recreation equipment to be used by program participants is permitted under this program.

(D) Cultural and recreational activities, such as ethnic heritage classes, and art, dance, drama and music appreciation and instruction programs are eligible Youth Sports Program activities.

(E) Youth leadership skills training for program participants is permitted under this program. These activities must provide opportunities designed to involve public and Indian housing youth in peer leadership roles in the implementation of program activities, for example, as team or activity captains, counselors to younger program participants, assistant coaches, and equipment or supplies managers. Grantees may contract with youth trainers to provide services which may include training in peer pressure reversal, resistance or refusal skills, goal planning, parenting skills, and other relevant topics.

(F) Transportation costs directly related to Youth Sports activities (for example, leasing a vehicle to transport a Youth Sports team to a game) are eligible program expenses.

(G) The purchase of vehicles under this program is prohibited.

(H) Liability insurance costs directly related to Youth Sports activities are eligible program expenses.

(3) Threshold requirements for funding.

Every activity proposed for funding under the Youth Sports Program must satisfy each of the following requirements or it will not be considered for funding:

(i) The activity must be operated as, in conjunction with, or in furtherance of, an organized program or plan designed to eliminate drugs and drug-related problems in the public or Indian housing development or developments for which the activity is proposed. (See, Section III.(a)(7), below, of this NOFA.)

(ii) The activity for which funding is sought must be conducted with respect to public or Indian housing sites that HUD determines have a substantial problem regarding the use or sale of illegal drugs.

(A) The determination required in paragraph (ii) will be made on the basis of information submitted in the applicant's plan as described below in "Checklist of Application Submission Requirements," Section III.(a)(7).

(iii) The activities or facilities funded by Youth Sports grants must serve primarily youth from the public or