



HUD Standards for Success

Data Integrity Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What is Standards for Success?

Standards for Success is HUD's new data collection and reporting framework for its discretionary grants.

How is Standards for Success different from the current approach to reporting?

The Standards for Success framework offers:

- Standardization of data elements, definitions, data collection and reporting;
- One reporting tool for multiple types of grants eliminating duplicative requirements across programs;
- Improvements in the reporting tool;
- Reduced frequency of reporting;
- Option of data extracts from current technology systems;
- Protection of privacy of Participants; and
- De-identified, record-level data collection allows for aggregation at different levels and more extensive and valuable data analysis.

When does Standards for Success become effective?

Standards for Standards for Success has a multi-year transition period beginning with a one-year proof of concept Pilot in fiscal year (FY) 2017. The Pilot will test the framework and validity of the data measures. At the pilot's conclusion after FY 2017, HUD will assess the pilot, review feedback from users and make refinements for broader implementation.

Which Grantees are participating in the Pilot Program?

The Pilot Program participation is designated for select discretionary Grantees from the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDs (HOPWA) Program, the Multifamily Housing Service Coordinator (MFSC) Program using AASC Online, Budget-based (B-b) Funding Service Coordinators using AASC Online, and the Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) using AASC online and all FY16 ROSS awardees.



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I am a service coordinator and I use AASC Online in my data collection and reporting, am I included in the pilot?

Yes, AASC Online users are participating in the Pilot because new reporting requirements will be built directly into AASC Online.

Will I be required to change reporting tools from the tool I currently use?

The new on-line data collection and reporting tool, "InForm", accommodates Grantees' current data management systems. InForm accepts predetermined system to system file transfers, XML files uploads, and direct data input.

Will APR regular reporting requirements for HOPWA be replaced by this program?

APR remains a required reporting activity. HUD is making efforts to avoid duplication of reporting activities with Standards for Success.

Do MFSC and B-b Funding Service Coordinators still need to submit other "semi-annual" reports? If so, when are they to be submitted?

MFSC and B-b Funding Service Coordinators will submit one last semi-annual report covering the time period October 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. This report is due on January 30, 2017.

How will the grant program Participants' privacy be protected?

Personally identifiable information (PII) is kept at the Grantee level and will not be reported to HUD. Grantees submit de-identified information to HUD. No PII is reported to HUD.



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What are Standards for Success indicators?

The Standards for Success framework focuses on 18 indicators aligned with HUD's strategic goals to measure the self-sufficiency and ability of HUD beneficiaries to obtain and maintain housing.

The indicators are designed to answer five fundamental questions on grant effectiveness:

1. Does Participant economic independence and self-sufficiency improve?
2. Does the ability to live independently improve?
3. Does participation reduce homelessness?
4. Does participation in grant-funded housing services improve other quality of life outcomes?
5. Do the grant-funded housing services help participants meet their housing needs?

These fundamental questions align with HUD's Agency Priority Goals (APGs).

What are data elements?

Data elements are individual items of information such as a calendar date, number or status code. The indicators are derived from 98 data elements that provide information regarding the Grant Award or Participant.

Will I be required to collect all 98 data elements and report all 18 indicators?

Grantees will collect data elements for indicators only relevant to their grants as determined by each HUD program.

In addition, all 18 indicators do not apply to each program. Success Indicators apply to a program based off the data elements the program collects and reports. Calculations of success indicators are performed at the HUD level, not at the Grantee level.



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Will Grantees participating in the Pilot be required to meet benchmarked performance indicators?

Grantees participating in the Pilot Program will not be required to meet performance measures. The purpose of the Pilot Program is to test the feasibility of the framework and methodology; assess what works; and identify opportunities for refinements.

Can I opt out of the Pilot Program?

Grantees participating in the Pilot Program have the option to discontinue participation if they make this election during the first year of the Pilot. Participating in the Pilot offers the following advantages to Grantees:

- A first-hand look and experience with HUD's new reporting approach before broader implementation;
- The ability to provide feedback to better serve Grantees' and Participants' needs; and
- Not being held to any benchmark on data collected during the Pilot.

HUD is striving to minimize any inconveniences of participation.

What resources are available to help me learn about Standards for Success?

HUD representatives and subcontractors are offering a variety of opportunities to increase knowledge about Standards for Success and its components including a:

- Series of webinars and computer-based training;
- Data Integrity Reference Manual addressing what, when and how to collect data elements and an explanation of the success indicators;
- Data Reporting Reference Manual explaining the InForm tool; and
- Set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), Fact Sheets, Shortcuts, and Quick References for both Data Collection and Data Reporting.

Existing educational and reference materials are available on the HUD portal. As new materials are developed, they will also be available on the HUD portal.



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How can I provide feedback or ask questions or regarding the Standards for Success framework and methodology?

Contact HUD by e-mail at askgmo@hud.gov to provide feedback or submit questions regarding Standards for Success. Include Standards for Success in the e-mail's subject line.