

About Section 3

What is Section 3?

Section 3 is a provision of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Act of 1968 that helps foster local economic development, neighborhood economic improvement, and individual self-sufficiency. The Section 3 program requires that recipients of certain HUD financial assistance, to the greatest extent feasible, provide job training, employment, and contracting opportunities for low- or very-low income residents in connection with projects and activities in their neighborhoods.

How does Section 3 promote self- sufficiency?

Section 3 is a starting point to obtain job training, employment and contracting opportunities. From this integral foundation coupled with other resources comes the opportunity for economic advancement and self-sufficiency.

- Federal, state and local programs
- Advocacy groups
- Community and faith-based organizations

How does Section 3 promote homeownership?

Section 3 is a starting point to homeownership. Once a Section 3 resident has obtained employment or contracting opportunities they have begun the first step to self-sufficiency.

Remember, "It doesn't have to be fields of dreams". Homeownership is achievable. For more information visit our HUD [website](#).

Who are Section 3 residents?

Section 3 residents are:

- Public housing residents or
- Persons who live in the area where a HUD-assisted project is located and who have a household income that falls below [HUD's income limits](#).

Determining Income Levels

- Low income is defined as 80% or below the median income of that area.
- Very low income is defined as 50% or below the median income of that area.

What is a Section 3 business concern?

A business that:

- Is 51 percent or more owned by Section 3 residents;
- Employs Section 3 residents for at least 30 percent of its full-time, permanent staff; or

- Provides evidence of a commitment to subcontract to Section 3 business concerns, 25 percent or more of the dollar amount of the awarded contract.

What programs are covered?

Section 3 applies to HUD-funded Public and Indian Housing assistance for development, operating, and modernization expenditures.

Section 3 also applies to certain HUD-funded Housing and Community Development projects that complete housing rehabilitation, housing construction, and other public construction.

What types of economic opportunities are available under Section 3?

- Job training
- Employment
- Contracts

Any employment resulting from these expenditures, including administration, management, clerical support, and construction, is subject to compliance with Section 3.

Examples of Opportunities include:

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|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Accounting | • Electrical | • Marketing |
| • Architecture | • Elevator Construction | • Painting |
| • Appliance repair | • Engineering | • Payroll Photography |
| • Bookkeeping | • Fencing | • Plastering |
| • Bricklaying | • Florists | • Plumbing |
| • Carpentry | • Heating | • Printing Purchasing |
| • Carpet Installation | • Iron Works | • Research |
| • Catering | • Janitorial | • Surveying |
| • Cement/Masonry | • Landscaping | • Tile setting |
| • Computer/Information | • Machine Operation | • Transportation |
| • Demolition | • Manufacturing | • Word processing |
| • Drywall | | |

Who will award the economic opportunities?

Recipients of HUD financial assistance will award the economic opportunities. They and their contractors and subcontractors are required to provide, to the greatest extent feasible, economic opportunities consistent with existing Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

Who receives priority under Section 3?

For training and employment:

- Persons in public and assisted housing
- Persons in the area where the HUD financial assistance is spent
- Participants in HUD Youthbuild programs
- Homeless persons

For contracting:

- Businesses that meet the definition of a Section 3 business concern

How can businesses find Section 3 residents to work for them?

Businesses can recruit Section 3 residents in public housing developments and in the neighborhoods where the HUD assistance is being spent. Effective ways of informing residents about available training and job opportunities are:

- Contacting resident organizations, local community development and employment agencies
- Distributing flyers
- Posting signs
- Placing ads in local newspapers

Are recipients, contractors, and subcontractors required to provide long-term employment opportunities, not simply seasonal or temporary employment?

Recipients are required, to the greatest extent feasible, to provide all types of employment opportunities to low and very low-income persons, including permanent employment and long-term jobs.

Recipients and contractors are encouraged to have Section 3 residents make up at least 30 percent of their permanent, full-time staff.

A Section 3 resident who has been employed for 3 years may no longer be counted towards meeting the 30 percent requirement. This encourages recipients to continue hiring Section 3 residents when employment opportunities are available.

What if it appears an entity is not complying with Section 3?

There is a complaint process. Section 3 residents, businesses, or a representative for either may file a complaint if it seems a recipient is violating Section 3 requirements are being on a HUD-funded project.

Will HUD require compliance?

Yes. HUD monitors the performance of contractors, reviews annual reports from recipients, and investigates complaints. HUD also examines employment and

contract records for evidence that recipients are training and employing Section 3 residents and awarding contracts to Section 3 businesses.

How can Section 3 residents or Section 3 business concerns allege Section 3 violations?

You can file a written complaint with your [local HUD Field Office](#).

A written complaint should contain:

- Name and address of the person filing the complaint
- Name and address of subject of complaint (HUD recipient, contractor or subcontractor)
- Description of acts or omissions in alleged violation of Section 3
- Statement of corrective action sought i.e. training, employment or contracts

SECTION 3 BUSINESS SELF-CERTIFICATION FORM

(In compliance with Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968 Updated 24 CFR Part 75 11/30/2020)

The purpose of this form is to comply with Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968 Business Certification requirements. To count as a Section 3 Business your company/firm must meet one of the listed categories below. Each category will require additional documentation to support the election. You must provide that supporting documentation with this form to be properly and completely confirmed as a Section 3 business. If this form is submitted without the required supplemental data, your certification will not be processed.

Section 3 Business Category	Additional Required Data	Mark an "X" on Your Election
It is at least 51 percent owned by low- or very low-income persons;	Proof of ownership showing all owners and their percentages and a completed Section 3 Individual Self-Certification form for all low- and very low-income owners	
Over 75 percent of the labor hours performed for the business are performed by low- or very low-income persons; or	Provide the last 90 days full payrolls for the entire company, make a list of the names from the payrolls of the Section 3 workers, and provide a completed Section 3 Individual Self-Certification for all low- and very low-income workers you list	
It is a business at least 51 percent owned by current public housing residents or residents who currently live in Section 8-assisted housing.	Proof of ownership showing all owners and their percentages and a Section 3 Individual Self-Certification form for all public housing and/or Section 8 owners	

I hereby certify to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that all of the information on this form is true and correct. I attest under penalty of perjury that my business meets the elected definition and understand proof of this information may be requested. If found to be inaccurate, I understand that I may be disqualified as a certified Section 3 business

Signature:		Date Signed:
Print Name:	Title:	
Company Name:		Signers Email:
Address		
Telephone Number		
Type of Business: (Check One): <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Other		

SECTION 3 INDIVIDUAL LOW-INCOME PERSON SELF-CERTIFICATION FORM

(In compliance with Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968 Updated 24 CFR Part 75 11/30/2020)

The purpose of this form is to comply with Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968 self-certification income requirements. To count as a Section 3 individual, any legal resident of the United States annual income must not exceed the HUD income limits for the year before they were hired, or, the individuals current year income annualized for the year you are being confirmed as low-income.

Printed Name: _____

Street Address (Not a PO Box) Apt# City State Zip

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

To qualify as a Section 3 Person, you must meet one of the standards on the left side box and your income not exceed the number in the right-side box below.

Check only one line below that describes your housing situation: <input type="checkbox"/> I am a Public Housing Resident or Section 8 Assists me with my rent <input type="checkbox"/> I receive No HUD support, but I am low-income and live in the area	My Individual Income does not exceed: \$35,500
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I hereby certify to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that all of the information on this form is true and correct. I attest under penalty of perjury that my total income is as shown above, and that proof of this information may be requested. If found to be inaccurate, I understand that I may be disqualified as an applicant and/or a certified Section 3 individual. Finally, I authorize including my name on a list of Section 3 Residents seeking employment and to include my contact information so that contractors may contact me directly for any employment opportunities.

Signature

Date