

## **19.0 Termination of the HAP Contract**

The Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) contract is the contract between the owner and Pensacola Housing that defines the responsibilities of both parties. This chapter describes the circumstances under which the contract can be terminated by Pensacola Housing and the owner, and the policies and procedures for such terminations.

Pensacola Housing will not make any subsidy payments to the owner on behalf of the family for any period of time after the month in which the HAP contract is terminated. Depending on the circumstances of the termination, the tenant or the owner may be required to reimburse Pensacola Housing for any subsidy payments made for any period after the contract termination date.

If the family continues to occupy the unit after the contract is terminated, the family is responsible for the total amount of rent due to the owner. The owner will have no right to claim compensation from Pensacola Housing for vacancy loss.

After a contract termination, if the family meets the criteria for a move with continued assistance, the family may lease-up in another unit. The contract for the new unit may begin after the effective date of the prior HAP contract termination.

### **19.1 HAP Contract Terminates with Lease**

The term of the HAP contract is the same as the term of the lease. If either the owner or the tenant terminates the lease, either mutually or unilaterally, then the HAP contract automatically terminates as well.

### **19.2 Termination of the HAP Contract by Pensacola Housing**

Pensacola Housing will terminate the HAP contract:

1. When the lease terminates;
2. When Pensacola Housing terminates program assistance for the family;
3. If the family is required to move from a unit when the unit does not meet HQS occupancy standards because of an increase in family size or a change in family composition;
4. If the family breaks up and Pensacola Housing determines that the family members who move from the unit will receive the assistance;
5. If 180 days have passed since Pensacola Housing's last HAP payment to the owner;
6. If funding is no longer available under the ACC; or
7. If the owner breaches the HAP contract.

### **19.2.1 Owner Violations of the HAP Contract**

The following violations of the HAP contract may cause Pensacola Housing to terminate the contract:

1. The owner has violated an obligation under the HAP contract for the dwelling unit, including the owner's obligation to maintain the unit in accordance with HQS.
2. The owner has violated an obligation under any other HAP contract under Section 8 of the 1937 Act.
3. The owner has committed fraud, bribery, or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program.
4. For projects with mortgages insured by HUD or loans made by HUD, the owner has failed to comply with the regulations for the applicable mortgage insurance or loan program, with the mortgage or mortgage note, or with the regulatory agreement.
5. The owner has delinquent state or local taxes owing on the rental property(s).
6. The owner has engaged in drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity.

### **19.3 Automatic Termination of the HAP Contract**

The HAP contract terminates automatically if:

1. Pensacola Housing terminates assistance to the family;
2. The family moves out of the unit;
3. The family is a single-person household and that person passes away; or
4. 180 calendar days have passed since the last HAP payment was made to the owner.

### **19.4 Final Housing Assistance Payments**

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) are paid to the owner under the terms of the HAP contract. If the owner has begun eviction proceedings and the family continues to reside in the unit, Pensacola Housing shall continue to make HAP payments to the owner until the owner has obtained a court judgment. If the action is finalized in court, the owner must provide Pensacola Housing with the documentation, including notice of the date of the court-ordered Writ of Possession.

HAP payments stop when the lease terminates. In some cases, the owner may keep the full HAP payment for the month in which the family moves out, or, in the case of a one-person household, if that person passes away.