



Get NSPIREd

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Are You Registered for the NSPIRE Demo? Don’t miss the opportunity to help shape the new inspection model!

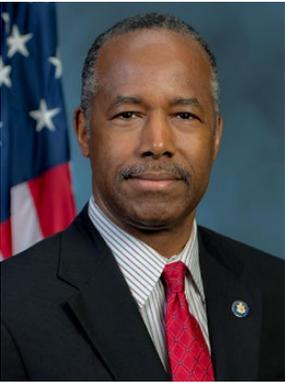
HUD is seeking volunteers nationwide from Public Housing Authorities (PHA) and Property Owners and Agents (POA) for the NSPIRE Demonstration. PHAs and POAs will be an integral part of helping to shape the new inspection model through hands-on participation and feedback on the proposed standards for the new inspection model.

The Benefits of Volunteering

Properties approved to join the NSPIRE Demonstration enjoy a host of benefits. Volunteer properties will receive an NSPIRE inspection and an advisory NSPIRE score. They will not receive a UPCS inspection, and thus, their current UPCS score will be carried forward throughout the duration of the Demonstration. Conveniently, properties have the option of submitting their self-inspection scores in one submission or over the course of the year.

Additional benefits of participating:

- ✓ Get ahead with an “inspection ready” maintenance strategy and devote resources toward annual staff training and certifications instead of allocating resources to prepare for a UPCS inspection.



“As a former physician, health in housing has always been close to my heart. By modernizing our inspection mechanisms with the development of the new NSPIRE system, HUD is working toward healthy homes for all residents.”

Dr. Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D.
Secretary,
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- ✓ Collaborate with HUD to develop reasonable time frames associated with repairs that do not have a 24-hour constraint.
- ✓ Take advantage of training opportunities with NSPIRE, including how to use the inspection software.
- ✓ Have the option to participate in focus groups, listening sessions, conference calls, and training sessions on policies and procedures.
- ✓ Provide feedback that will help shape the new inspection model.

Registration

The department wants a diverse, representative group of stakeholders from across the nation and encourages early registration. If interested in participating in the Demonstration, please visit the link below.

[Click Here for More Information on Registering a Property](#)

Recent Events

On February 7, 2020, REAC Assessment Manager Richard Scalzo gave a presentation on NSPIRE at the 2020 Executive Director's Forum of the Florida Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (FAHRO) in Atlantic Beach, FL. The HUD roundtable provided Mr. Scalzo invaluable feedback to help with the development of NSPIRE Standards.



Richard Scalzo, REAC Assessment Manager, presenting at FAHRO



David Vargas, REAC Deputy Assistant Secretary, presenting at NAHMA

On February 26 and March 9, 2020, REAC Deputy Assistant Secretary David Vargas offered presentations about the development of the NSPIRE protocol at the Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) Director's Conference in Arlington, VA, and the National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA) Conference in Washington, DC.

NSPIRE Standards Development is Thorough

Early Versions of NSPIRE Standards are Ready!

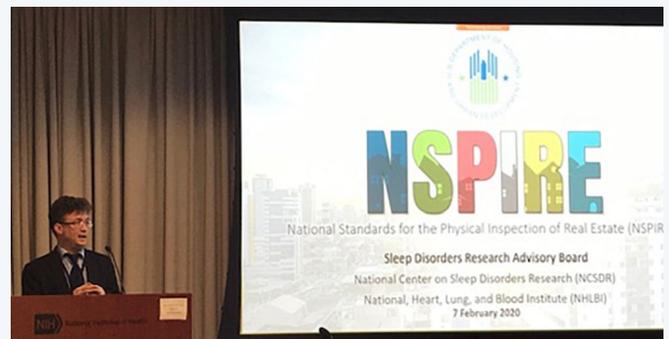


HUD continues to welcome public comments and review them for continuous improvement of health and safety standards.

Our NSPIRE team has collaborated with experts across the federal government, academic centers, and non-profit organizations to provide technical input and scientific guidance. HUD is building a comprehensive inspection process that better identifies health and safety risks within a resident's dwelling unit.

As a recent example of collaboration, Dr. David Hewitt gave a lecture on NSPIRE at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), receiving feedback from the experts at the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research (NCSDR) of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). The feedback received from NHLBI and NCSDR was constructive to the identification and development of health and safety risks to residents.

NSPIRE has introduced an innovative approach for developing, updating, and adapting standards and scoring based on continuous improvement. HUD has developed and published a list of health and safety deficiencies for each inspectable area to offer the public an opportunity to comment on the clarity of deficiencies, accuracy of rationales, and application of the standards in the inspection process.



Dr. David Hewitt giving a lecture at the NIH

Visit the link below to learn more about NSPIRE Standards and provide your comments and feedback.

[Click Here for More Information on NSPIRE Standards](#)

NSPIRE's Response to COVID-19

With new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), REAC is postponing property inspections for all PIH and Multifamily properties. These restrictions have been put in place for the protection of residents, property owners and agents, inspectors, and

HUD personnel. Where there is an exigent threat to life or property at a specific location, HUD quality assurance inspectors will conduct inspections in compliance with CDC guidelines.

Concurrently, NSPIRE has made the decision to postpone all NSPIRE field testing until further notice. Meanwhile, standards refinement and scoring testing will continue to further the development of the NSPIRE model. We encourage you to stay up to date on the latest pandemic-related HUD news by visiting the link below.

[Click here for More Information on HUD's Response to COVID-19](#)

Get NSPIRE Updates from the Right Source

Subscribe to *Get NSPIREd* Now!

Stay involved with and informed on NSPIRE with the monthly newsletter, *Get NSPIREd*, and by joining our email news list. Subscribing is an easy way to stay up to date on the latest NSPIRE news and events. Once you join, you will receive periodic email messages that include essential information about NSPIRE, such as the monthly newsletter, upcoming events, and NSPIRE updates. You can subscribe or unsubscribe at any time, and we never share your personal information with anyone outside of HUD.

Advisory

HUD is aware there may be some potentially misleading third-party information circulating about NSPIRE, including the Demonstration. HUD encourages stakeholders to verify any information they receive from third parties with official sources such as HUD's NSPIRE website or the *Federal Register*.

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Building the New Inspection Model for a New Era
National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE)

Since 2017, HUD has been undertaking a "wholesale reexamination" of the Real Estate Assessment Center's (REAC) physical housing inspection process and working hard to modernize its inspection model.

The new model, NSPIRE, prioritizes health and safety over appearance, with a renewed focus on the areas that impact residents directly. NSPIRE brings more objective standards, value-added inspection protocols, and scoring elements that are more defensible and less complex.

“Ensuring the safety of our residents has been a priority of Secretary Carson’s and mine. NSPIRE leads the way in our effort to update and modernize HUD programs. It will be our most important tool to ensure we continue to deliver safe, decent, and affordable housing for generations to come.”

Hunter Kurtz
Assistant Secretary,
Office of Public & Indian Housing

“NSPIRE will align multiple inspection standards for assisted housing to a single standard that is flexible enough to accommodate the unique circumstances of each program and housing type. NSPIRE is changing the focus of our on-site inspections from a property-centric approach to a resident-centric approach by concentrating on where families reside and the livability of that unit.”

David Vargas
Deputy Assistant Secretary,
REAC

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