

underlying programs apply to applicants, their projects, and the beneficiaries of those projects are unchanged by either this Notice or the Section 6025 regulation.

IV. Application Evaluation and Selection for Underlying Programs Funds

All FY 2020 applications for underlying programs will be reviewed, evaluated, and scored based on the underlying program's scoring criteria. This Notice does not affect that process. This Notice only affects the scoring of SECD applications competing for an underlying program's funds.

A. Scoring of Applications

All eligible and complete applications competing for an underlying program's funds will be evaluated and scored based on the criteria of the applicable underlying program, whether or not the applicant seeks regional planning priority points.

For applicants wishing to be considered for the reserved funds in FY 2020, the Agency will review, evaluate, and score each Form RD 1980–88, based on the criteria specified in 7 CFR 1980.1020, to award the SECD priority points.

B. Selection Process

The Agency will select the highest scoring applications competing for an underlying program's funds based on the award process for the underlying program to determine which projects receive funds except that:

- An application's total score will be determined in accordance with section IV.A. of this Notice and
- To the extent provided by the underlying programs in this Notice, the Agency will encourage awarding "SECD priority" to qualifying applications.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notices

The Agency will notify SECD applicants who receive funding in a manner consistent with award notifications for the underlying program.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Any and all additional requirements of the applicable underlying programs apply to projects receiving funding in response to this Notice. Please see the regulations for the applicable underlying program.

C. Reporting Requirements

Any and all post-award reporting requirements contained in the

underlying program apply to all projects receiving funding in response to this Notice.

Applicants who are selected for funding in FY 2020 in response to this Notice (*i.e.*, those applicants who submit Form RD 1980–88 and receive funding from the underlying program's funds) are required to submit information in accordance with 7 CFR 1980.1026. This information is on the project's measures, metrics, and outcomes that the awardee would already be submitting to the appropriate entity(ies) monitoring the implementation of the plan.

VII. Additional Information

Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the information collection requirements contained in 7 CFR part 1980, subpart K, have been approved by OMB under OMB Control Number 0570–0068.

National Environmental Policy Act

This document has been reviewed in accordance with 7 CFR part 1970, subpart A, "Environmental Policies." It is the determination of the Agency that this action does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Public Law 91–190, neither an Environmental Assessment nor an Environmental Impact Statement is required.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act

All applicants, in accordance with 2 CFR part 25, must have a DUNS number, which can be obtained at no cost via a toll-free request line at 1–866–705–5711 or online at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. Similarly, all grant applicants must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) prior to submitting an application. Applicants may register for the SAM at <http://www.sam.gov/SAM>. All recipients of Federal financial grant assistance are required to report information about first-tier sub-awards and executive total compensation in accordance with 2 CFR part 170.

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on

race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (*e.g.*, Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877–8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD–3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632–9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–9410; fax: (202) 690–7442; or email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Donald DJ LaVoy,

Deputy Under Secretary, Rural Development.

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ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD

Notice of Guidance Documents

AGENCY: Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

ACTION: Notice of guidance documents.

SUMMARY: We, the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (hereafter, "Access Board," "Board," or "we"), are issuing this notice to announce that, pursuant to Executive Order 13891, we have collected and listed all of our guidance documents on our website which can be found at <http://www.access-board.gov/guidance>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher Kuczynski, (202) 272-0042, kuczynski@access-board.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Executive Order 13891 requires each agency to establish on its website “a single, searchable, indexed database that contains or links all guidance documents in effect.” (84 FR 55235, Oct. 9, 2019). In response, the Access Board has identified all of its guidance documents and co-located them at <https://www.access-board.gov/guidance>.

The Access Board is a small, independent federal agency dedicated to promoting equality for people with disabilities through, among other things, developing and maintaining accessibility guidelines under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA). Under titles II and III of the ADA, the Board develops and maintains accessibility guidelines for buildings, facilities, and transit vehicles. *See* 42 U.S.C. 12204; *see also* 29 U.S.C. 792(b)(3)(B) & (b)(10). These ADA Accessibility Guidelines serve as the basis for standards issued by the departments of Justice (DOJ) and Transportation (DOT) which enforce the ADA. *See, e.g.*, 42 U.S.C. 12134(c), 12149(b), 12163, 12186(c). The ABA requires facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with federal funds to be accessible to people with disabilities. The Access Board maintains the accessibility guidelines upon which the ABA standards are based and enforces these standards through the investigation of complaints. In addition to promulgating regulations, the Board is charged with developing advisory information and providing technical assistance on its regulations, titles II and III of the ADA, and the ABA. *See* 29 U.S.C. 792(b)(2); 42 U.S.C. 2131 *et seq.* and 12181 *et seq.* The majority of Access Board guidance documents explain and illustrate requirements in the ADA or ABA Standards. These guides are non-binding and simply help clarify the applicable standards and provide clearly labeled recommendations for optional best practices that exceed the minimum requirements.

The Board also issues standards and guidelines under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 794d, and Section 255 of the Communications Act. Section 508 requires that information and communication technology (ICT) purchased, maintained, or used by the federal government be readily accessible to, and usable by, individuals with disabilities. Section 255 of the Communication Act, 47 U.S.C. 255,

requires that telecommunications services and equipment be accessible to, and usable by, individuals with disabilities where readily achievable.

The guidance documents listed on the Board’s website are divided into seven separate categories.

1. Guidance on the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Standards

These guidance documents, while listed separately, together make up a single guide to the ADA Standards. The guide is divided by chapters that correspond to the applicable Chapters in the ADA Standards. In the beginning of the Guide to the ADA Accessibility Standards, the Board notes that it “explains requirements in the current editions of the ADA Standards issued by the DOJ and DOT. It was developed by the U.S. Access Board in cooperation with DOJ and DOT. It is important to use this guide along with a complete copy of the ADA Standards as it explains, but does not contain or reprint, the text of the ADA Standards.” *See* <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-ada-standards/guide-to-the-ada-standards/about-this-guide>.

2. Guidance on the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Accessibility Standards

This document is similar to the guide on the ADA Standards in that it is divided into multiple chapters that correspond to the chapters of the ABA Standards. Similarly, this guide explains current editions of the ABA Standards issued by the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the U.S. Postal Service, which are based on, and are substantively similar to, the Board’s updated ABA Accessibility Guidelines (2004).” *See* <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-aba-standards/guide-to-the-aba-standards/about-this-guide>. Additionally, the Board provides a disclaimer which states “[i]t is important to use this guide along with a complete copy of the ABA Standards as it explains, but does not contain or reprint, the text of the ABA Standards.”

3. Animations on the ADA and ABA Standards

The Access Board has created multiple short animations which provide a visual and audible illustration of sections of the ADA and ABA Standards. These animations follow the same structure of the guides on the ADA

and ABA Standards in that they explain requirements in the standards and provide best practices but do not establish any new or additional requirements above what is specified in the standards.

4. Guidance on the ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles

This guide provides technical assistance, background, and rationale for the ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles, 36 CFR part 1192, and gives examples of how the accessibility guidelines can be applied in particular cases.

5. Guidance on Requirements for Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

These older guidance documents provide technical assistance on the implementation of the original standards issued under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. While the Board has updated these standards recently, we maintain this guide as there is still legacy ICT to which the Original 508 Standards are applicable. 36 CFR part 1194, Appendix D.

6. Guidance on Public Rights-of-Way

This section includes multiple documents and videos that provide technical assistance on providing access to public streets and sidewalks and other elements of public rights-of-way. These materials clearly state that they are only intended to provide technical assistance and are not binding as the public rights-of-way rulemaking has not been completed.

7. Guidance on Prescription Drug Labels

This is advisory guidance on making prescription drug container labels accessible to people who are blind, visually impaired, or elderly. Section 904 of the Food and Drug Administration and Innovation Act (Pub. L. 112-144, 126 Stat. 993) charged the Access Board with convening a working group to develop best practices for making information on prescription drug container labels accessible. However, these best practices are not mandatory and are not standards or accessibility guidelines of the Access Board. *Id.*

David M. Capozzi,
Executive Director.

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