



*Housing Trust Fund  
Allocation Plan Guide  
2017*



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## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

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### HTF Allocation Plan

The Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Interim Rule (24 CFR Part 93) made the consolidated plan regulations at 24 CFR Part 91 applicable to the HTF. As a result, an HTF grantee (i.e., a State) must include HTF in its citizen participation plan (§ 91.115), strategic plan (§ 91.315), and annual action plan (§ 91.320). In addition, the State must submit to HUD for review and approval an HTF allocation plan with its annual action plan (§ 91.320(k)(5)). Also, as required in § 91.10, the HTF program must be administered by the State on the same program year it established for all grant programs covered by the consolidated plan.

The HTF allocation plan is an annual submission to HUD that describes how the State will distribute the HTF funds, including how it will use the funds to address its priority housing needs. The allocation plan also describes what activities may be undertaken with HTF funds and how recipients and projects will be selected.

### Submission Requirement

HUD Notice CPD 12-009 requires a State submitting a consolidated plan on or after November 15, 2012 to use the eCon Planning Suite in IDIS to submit this plan and all subsequent consolidated plans, annual action plans, and consolidated annual performance and evaluations reports (CAPERs). However, the eCon Planning Suite does not currently contain the data fields to accommodate the HTF allocation plan. As a result, HUD developed this guide to assist the State in submitting the HTF allocation plan. ***The State may opt to use this sample form or to submit its allocation plan in a different format, provided that all required elements are addressed.*** Please visit the HTF website, [www.hudexchange.info/htf](http://www.hudexchange.info/htf) for more guidance on the HTF program and HUD Notice CPD 17-05 *Guidance for HTF Grantees on Fiscal Year 2017 Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Allocation Plans* for more information on HTF allocation plans. This guide also contains a list of HTF and eCon Planning Suite resources that the State should reference before developing and submitting its HTF allocation plan. The State should also consult the *Con Plan Quick Guide: Amending a Consolidated Plan and Action Plan* for assistance on amending its consolidated plan and action plan.

### Deadline

The State must submit an HTF allocation plan and make any amendments to its consolidated plan no later than **August 16, 2017**. ***Please note that if the State submitted a new 5-year consolidated plan for FY 2016 funding or amended its approved consolidated plan to include HTF for FY 2016 funding, the State may not need to make changes to its approved consolidated plan for FY 2017.*** For 2017, the HTF allocation plan must be submitted to both the local HUD CPD Field Office and to HUD's Office of Affordable Housing Programs at [htf@hud.gov](mailto:htf@hud.gov).

**Review Period**

The 45-day review period begins when (a) HUD receives the Standard Form 424 and certifications or email notification that the consolidated plan has been submitted in IDIS (for new action plans) or (b) HUD receives the Standard Form 424 and certifications or email notification that an amended action plan has been submitted in IDIS.

**Approval Process**

The HTF allocation plan will be deemed approved 45 days after HUD receives the plan, unless HUD notifies the State that the plan is disapproved before expiration of the review period. Please note, if a State intends to use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, it must set forth the guidelines for resale and recapture, and obtain HUD's specific, written approval, as required in § 93.304(f), separate and apart from the approval of the HTF allocation plan.

**Need Assistance?**

For assistance with the HTF allocation plan, the State should contact the local HUD CPD Field Office and/or send its question(s) to the HTF mailbox at [htf@hud.gov](mailto:htf@hud.gov). For assistance with the eCon Planning Suite in IDIS, the State should contact Ask A Question on the HUD Exchange website at <https://www.hudexchange.info/get-assistance/my-question/>.

## II. GRANTEE INFORMATION

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State:

FY 2017 HTF Allocation Amount:

## III. CONSOLIDATED PLAN REQUIREMENTS

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### Citizen Participation Plan

The consolidated plan regulation at § 91.115 requires the State to include HTF in its citizen participation plan. Essentially, before adopting a consolidated plan, the State is required to adopt a citizen participation plan that describes the process for providing and encouraging citizens to participate in the development of the consolidated plan, the amendments to the consolidated plan and the performance report (CAPERS). For the purposes of HTF, the State is required to make the following information available to the public:

- the amount of HTF assistance the State expects to receive,
- the range of activities the State may undertake, including the estimated amount that will benefit extremely low-income households, and
- the State’s plans to minimize displacement of persons and to assist any persons displaced.

If the State already conducted its citizen participation and included HTF in any citizen participation it performed for the other HUD formula grant programs, then the State does not need to conduct additional citizen participation for HTF. If the State has not yet conducted citizen participation or did not include HTF in the citizen participation it performed for other HUD formula grant programs, then it must conduct citizen participation to include HTF as part of its consolidated plan.

### Consolidated Plan Screen(s) To Revise

The following screen in the eCon Planning Suite consolidated plan template in IDIS must be revised to include HTF.

- ES-05 / AP-05 Executive Summary:** § 91.320(b)- The Executive Summary includes seven narratives: (1) Introduction; (2) Summary of Objectives and Outcomes; (3) Evaluation of Past Performance; (4) Summary of the Citizen Participation and Consultation Process; (5) Summary of Public Comments; (6) Summary of Comments Not Accepted; (7) Summary.

- PR-15 Citizen Participation:** § 91.115 and § 91.300(c)- revise this screen to provide a summary of the citizen participation efforts made for HTF, including efforts to broaden public participation, a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan, and a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

#### **IV. STRATEGIC PLAN REQUIREMENTS**

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The State must amend the affordable housing section of the strategic plan to include specific objectives that describe proposed accomplishments the State hopes to achieve and must specify the number of extremely low-income families to which the State will provide affordable housing to (homeownership- § 93.302; rental- § 93.304) over a specific period of time. The State can complete this requirement by including HTF on the **SP-45 Goals screen**.

**Note: Directions on how to amend a plan are included at the end of this document.**

**Reminder:** 100 percent of FY 2017 HTF funds must benefit extremely low-income households; a minimum of 80 percent must be used for rental housing; up to 10 percent may be used for homeownership housing; up to 10 percent may be used for administrative costs.

#### **Strategic Plan Screen(s) To Revise**

In addition to updating the affordable housing section of the strategic plan, the following screens in the eCon Planning Suite consolidated plan template in IDIS must be revised to include HTF.

- SP-10 Geographic Priorities:** § 91.315(a)(1)- revise this screen to discuss how investments are allocated geographically.
- SP-25 Priority Needs:** § 91.315(a)(2)- revise this screen to indicate the general priorities for allocating investment of available resources among different needs.
- SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions:** § 93.315(b)- revise this screen to describe how the characteristics of the housing market influenced the State's decisions regarding allocation priorities among the types of housing assistance.
- SP-35 Anticipated Resources:** § 91.315(a)(4); § 91.320(c)(1) and (2)- revise this screen to identify the federal, state, local, and private resources expected to be available to the State to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan. Specifically, the State should add a program to this screen by selecting "Add" in the *Action* column. This will open the **SP-36 Add Anticipated Resource** screen. The State should select "Other" in the *Anticipated Resource* field and enter "Housing Trust

Fund” in the *Other Funding Source* field. The State should also select the “public - federal” radio button in the “Source” field and complete the rest of the fields on this screen for its HTF program.

- SP-45 Goals:** § 91.315(a)(4) and § 91.315 (b)(2)- revise this screen to summarize the State’s priorities and the specific goals it intends to initiate and/or complete within the term of the strategic plan. The State must also ensure its five year goals include any accomplishments due to HTF funds and must also enter the number of extremely low-income families to which the State will provide assistance with its HTF funds.

## V. ANNUAL ACTION PLAN REQUIREMENTS

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The State must include HTF in its annual action plan or amend the plan to include HTF information as required in § 93.320(k)(5). The action plan must include an HTF allocation plan that describes the distribution of HTF funds, and establishes the application requirements and selection criteria of applications submitted by eligible recipients that meet the State’s priority housing needs.

### Annual Action Plan Screen(s) To Revise

The following screens in the eCon Planning Suite consolidated plan template in IDIS must be revised to include HTF.

- AP-15 Expected Resources:** § 91.320(c)(1) and (2)- revise this screen to provide a concise summary of the federal resources expected to be available. The HTF resources added to the **SP-35 Anticipated Resources** screen will carry over to this screen.
- AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives:** § 91.320(c)(3) and (e)- revise this screen to summarize the specific goals the State intends to initiate and/or complete within the term of the program year. Any HTF related goals and objectives entered on the **SP-45 Goals** screen will carry over to this screen.
- AP-25 Allocation Priorities:** § 91.320(d)- revise this screen to describe the reasons for the State’s allocation priorities and how the proposed distribution of funds will address the priority needs and goals of the strategic plan.
- AP-30 Method of Distribution:** § 91.320(d) and (k5)- revise this screen to include a description of its method(s) for distribution for the “Other – Housing Trust Fund” selection based on the entry made on the **SP-35 Anticipated Resources** screen.
- AP-35 Projects:** § 91.220(d)- revise this screen to include consolidated plan/annual action plan projects that reflect the planned use of HTF funds each year.



- AP-50 Geographic Distribution:** § 91.320(f)- revise this screen to describe the geographic areas of the state in which it will direct assistance during the ensuing program year and provide rationale for its priorities in allocating investment geographically.
- AP-55 Affordable Housing:** § 91.320(g)- revise this screen to specify goals for the number of homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households to be provided affordable housing within the program year.
- AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities:** § 91.320(h)- revise this screen to describe how HTF will help to address the State's one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness, if applicable.
- AP-75 Barriers to Affordable Housing:** § 91.320(i)- revise this screen to describe how HTF will help with any actions the State's will take during the next year to reduce barriers to affordable housing, if applicable.
- AP-85 Other Actions:** § 91.320(j)- revise this screen to describe how HTF will help with any actions the State will take during the next year to carry out the following strategies outlined in the consolidated plan:
  - Foster and maintain affordable housing;
  - Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards;
  - Reduce the number of poverty-level families;
  - Develop institutional structure; and
  - Enhance coordination.

In addition, the State must identify obstacles to meeting underserved needs and propose actions to overcome those obstacles using HTF funds, if applicable.

## VI. ALLOCATION PLAN REQUIREMENTS

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The State is responsible for distributing HTF funds throughout the State according to its housing priority needs. In addition to revising the **AP- 30 Method of Distribution** screen in IDIS, the State must respond to the following questions.

### **Distribution of HTF funds**

1. How will the State distribute its HTF funds (§ 91.320(k)(5))? Select all that apply:
  - Applications submitted by eligible recipients
  - Subgrantees that are State Agencies
  - Subgrantees that are HUD-CPD entitlement grantees
  
2. If distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees, describe the method for distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees and how those funds will be made available to state agencies and/or units of general local government. If not distributing funds through grants to subgrantees, enter "N/A".

3. If distributing HTF funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients,
  - a. Describe the eligibility requirements for recipients of HTF funds (as defined in 24 CFR § 93.2). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- b. Describe the State's application requirements for eligible recipients to apply for HTF funds. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- c. Describe the selection criteria that the State will use to select applications submitted by eligible recipients. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- d. Describe the State's required priority for funding based on geographic diversity (as defined by the State in the consolidated plan). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- e. Describe the State's required priority for funding based on the applicant's ability to obligate HTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- f. Describe the State's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the rental project has Federal, State, or local project-based rental assistance so that rents are affordable to extremely low-income families. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".



- g. Describe the State's required priority for funding based on the financial feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- h. Describe the State's required priority for funding based on the merits of the application in meeting the priority housing needs of the State (such as housing that is accessible to transit or employment centers, housing that includes green building and sustainable development features, or housing that serves special needs populations). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

- i. Describe the State's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

4. Does the State's application require the applicant to include a description of the eligible activities to be conducted with HTF funds? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes       No       N/A

5. Does the State's application require that each eligible recipient certify that housing units assisted with HTF funds will comply with HTF requirements? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes       No       N/A

6. **Performance Goals and Benchmarks- § 91.320(k)(5)(iii)**

The State has met the requirement to provide for performance goals and benchmarks against which the State will measure its progress, consistent with the State's goals established under 24 CFR 91.315(b)(2), by including HTF in its housing goals in the housing table on the SP-45 Goals and AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives screens.

Yes       No

7. **Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Amount-** § 91.320(k)(5) and § 93.300(a)

Enter or attach the State's maximum per-unit development subsidy limits for housing assisted with HTF funds.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the State will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

**8. Rehabilitation Standards - § 91.320(k)(5)(iv) and § 93.301(b)**

The State must establish rehabilitation standards for all HTF-assisted housing rehabilitation activities that set forth the requirements that the housing must meet upon project completion. The State's description of its standards must be in sufficient detail to determine the required rehabilitation work including methods and materials. The standards may refer to applicable codes or they may establish requirements that exceed the minimum requirements of the codes. At a minimum, the rehabilitation standards must address:

- Health and safety;
- Major systems;
- Lead-Based Paint;
- Accessibility;
- Disaster Mitigation;
- State and local Codes, Ordinances, and Zoning Requirements;
- Inspectable Areas and Observable Deficiencies from HUD's Uniform Physical Condition Standards identified by HUD as applicable to HTF-assisted housing; and
- Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable).

Enter or attach the State's rehabilitation standards. If the State will not use HTF funds for rehabilitation of housing, enter "N/A".

**9. Resale or Recapture Guidelines- § 91.320(k)(5)(v) and § 93.304(f)**

If the State intends to use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, it must set forth the guidelines for resale or recapture and obtain HUD specific, written approval, as required in § 93.304(f). Approval of the consolidated plan or annual action plan under § 91.500 or the failure to disapprove the consolidated plan or annual action plan does not satisfy the requirement for specific HUD approval for resale or recapture guidelines.

Enter or attach a description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HTF funds when used to assist first-time homebuyers. If the State will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

**10. HTF Affordable Homeownership Limits- § 91.320(k)(5)(vi) and § 93.305**

If the State intends to use HTF funds for homebuyer assistance and does not use the HTF affordable homeownership limits for the area provided by HUD, it must determine 95 percent of the median area purchase price and set forth the information in accordance with §93.305. If the State will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter “N/A”.

- The State will use the HUD issued affordable homeownership limits.
- The State has determined its own affordable homeownership limits using the methodology described in § 93.305(a)(2) and the limits are attached.
- N/A



**11. State Limited Beneficiaries or Preferences- § 91.320(k)(5)(vii)**

Describe how the State will limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population to serve unmet needs identified in its consolidated plan or annual action plan. If the State will not limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population, enter “N/A”.

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the State must not limit or give preferences to students. The State may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303(d)(3) only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

**12. Refinancing of Existing Debt- § 91.320(k)(5)(viii) and § 93.201(b)**

Enter or attach the State's refinancing guidelines below. The guidelines describe the conditions under which the State will refinance existing debt. The State's refinancing guidelines must, at minimum, demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing. If the State will not refinance existing debt, enter "N/A".

## VII. GRANTEE CERTIFICATIONS

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In addition to submitting an HTF allocation plan, the State must submit all the required certifications identified at § 91.225 (for new action plans). If the State is amending the action plan to include HTF, it must resubmit the following certification to include HTF:

- Consistency with plan- The jurisdiction must submit a certification that the housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan. Where the HOPWA funds are to be received by a city that is the most populous unit of general local government in an EMSA, it must obtain and keep on file certifications of consistency from the authorized public officials for each other locality in the EMSA in which housing assistance is provided. HTF must be included in this certification.

## VIII. REQUIRED FORMS

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In addition to submitting an HTF allocation plan, the State must submit and/or complete the following standard form for its HTF program.

- Standard form- 424: [Application for Federal Assistance](#) (§ 91.320(a))

## IX. RESOURCES

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The following resources should be referenced before developing and submitting the HTF allocation plan.

### HTF Resources

- HTF website- [www.hudexchange.info/htf](http://www.hudexchange.info/htf)
- HTF [Interim Rule](#)
- Notice CPD-17-05 [Guidance for HTF Grantees on Fiscal Year 2017 Housing Trust Fund \(HTF\) Allocation Plans](#)
- HTF [FAQs](#)
  - o HTF Maximum Per-Unit Development Subsidy Amounts
  - o HTF Rehabilitation Standards
- HTF Webcast on [Overview of the HTF program](#)
- HTF Webinar on [Developing HTF Allocation Plans](#)
- HTF [Formula Allocation](#)

## Consolidated Plan Resources


- eCon Planning Suite website- <https://www.hudexchange.info/consolidated-plan/econ-planning-suite/>
- Notice CPD-12-009: [Use of IDIS to Submit the Consolidated Plan](#)
- Consolidated Plan in IDIS [Desk Guide](#)
- Con Plan Quick Guide: [Amending a Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan For State, Entitlement & Regional Grantees.](#)

## X. APPENDICES

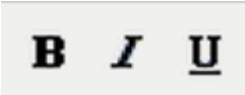
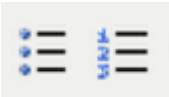


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### Appendix A: eCon Planning Suite Editing Options

#### Narrative Fields and the 4,000 Character Limit

The limit on the amount of text is 4,000 characters per field. The character limit includes white spaces, formatting marks such as new paragraphs, and other hidden characters. For example, the following text “The **quick** brown fox” contains 16 visible characters, but also contains 3 white space characters and additional hidden characters related to the bold and underline formatting. Users can select the  option to display and remove the hidden formatting.

#### Other Editing Options

| Tools   | Description   |
|---|---|
|  | Bold<br>Italics<br>Underline  |
|  | Bullet List<br>Numbered List  |
|  | Undo<br>Redo  |
|  | Paste as Plain Text. If this tool is toggled on, any text pasted into the narrative box will be stripped of all formatting.<br><br>Paste from Word. This tool will allow the pasted text to retain limited formatting, including Bold, Italics, Underline, and simple |

| Tools   | Description  |
|---|--|
|   | numbered and bulleted lists. Paste from Word will not retain more complex formatting, such as tables and indentation.                                  |
|  | Select All. This tool selects all of the text currently entered in the narrative box.  |
|  | Show/Hide Visual Control Characters. This tool is used to toggle the display of hidden formatting, such as paragraph marks (not currently functional). |
|  | Edit HTML Source. This tool opens a dialog box where users can edit the HTML Code to format the text of the narrative box.                             |

### Adding Additional Text Box for Narrative:

To input additional narrative beyond 4,000 characters, grantees can add another [text box](#). Due to embedded formatting in PDF documents, grantees should not try to copy text from PDFs, but should only use text or Microsoft Word files.

The screenshot below shows the features of narrative fields in the template.



## Appendix B: Amending a Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan

### I. Amending Approved Consolidated Plan/Year 1 Action Plan

The State should follow these instructions to amend its consolidated plan and annual action plan to include HTF. All States are responsible for amending their individual Action Plans.

To amend a Consolidated Plan/Year 1 Action Plan, grantees must first copy the existing plan.

1. Click "Search" under the Consolidated Plan submenu.



2. Make note of the Year and Version of the Plan to be amended.

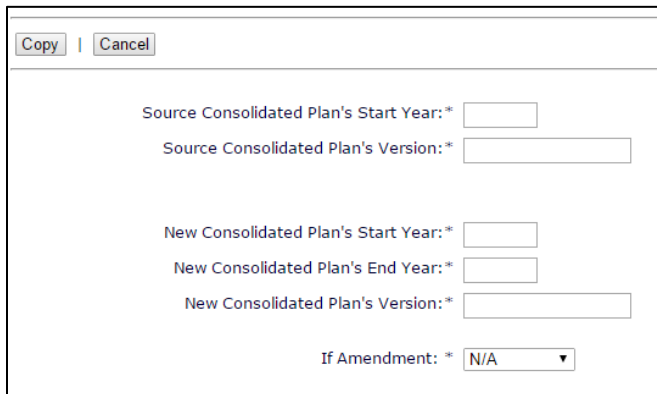
Results Page 1 of 1

| Grantee Name | State | Year | Version | Title   | Status           | Action |
|--------------|-------|------|---------|---|------------------|--------|
| SAN ANTONIO  | TX    | 2015 | 1       | San Antonio Five Year Consolidated Plan 2015-2019 | Review Completed | View   |

3. Click "Copy" under the Consolidated Plan submenu.



4. Enter the Source Year and Version from the Plan to be copied (identified in Step 2).

A screenshot of a "Copy" dialog box. At the top left, there are "Copy" and "Cancel" buttons. The dialog contains several input fields: "Source Consolidated Plan's Start Year: \*" with a text box, "Source Consolidated Plan's Version: \*" with a text box, "New Consolidated Plan's Start Year: \*" with a text box, "New Consolidated Plan's End Year: \*" with a text box, "New Consolidated Plan's Version: \*" with a text box, and "If Amendment: \*" with a dropdown menu currently set to "N/A".

5. Enter the Start Year, End Year and Version for the amended plan. For amendments, the Start Year must be the same as the Source Plan. Select whether the amendment is Minor or Substantial from the dropdown menu.

6. Once completed, click “Copy.” The Amended plan will be accessible from the Consolidated Plan search screen. The default title of the copied plan will be “ConPlan Copy.” Grantees can change the title on the AD-25 screen.
7. If the copy is a Substantial Amendment, the AD-25 screen will include a text box following the “If Amendment” dropdown menu to explain the amendment.

The screenshot shows a form with the following elements:

- A dropdown menu labeled "If Amendment:" with "Substantial" selected.
- A text box labeled "If Substantial Amendment, explain:\*" below the dropdown menu.

8. All amendments, minor and substantial, must be submitted for review in IDIS to ensure the amended information is included in the CAPER. Depending on the amendment, the Field Office may not conduct a full review of the plan, but must functionally mark the amended plan as “Review Complete” in IDIS.

## II. Amending the Action Plan

1. Click “Search” under the Action Plan submenu and note the Year and Version of the Action Plan to be amended.
2. Click “Copy” in the Action Plan submenu.



3. Enter information in the fields provided. For amendments, the Program Year for the amended plan must be the same as the Source Program Year.

### Copy Annual Action Plan

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|

Source AAP Program Year: \*

Source AAP Plan Version: \*

New AAP Program Year: \*

New AAP Plan Version: \*

If Amendment: \*

4. Select whether the amendment is Minor or Substantial.
5. When complete, click “Copy”. The amended plan will be accessible from the Action Plan search screen. The default title of the copied plan will be “AAP Copy.” Grantees can change the title on the AD-26 screen.
6. If the copy is a Substantial Amendment, the AD-26 screen will include a text box immediately following the “If Amendment” dropdown menu to explain the amendment.

If Amendment:

If Substantial Amendment, explain:\*

7. All amendments, minor and substantial, must be submitted for review in IDIS to ensure the amended information is included in the CAPER. Depending on the amendment, the Field Office may not conduct a full review of the plan, but must functionally mark the amended plan as “Review Complete” in IDIS.