the number of rental certificates requested.

(2) Evaluation Certifications

The HA and the PCWA in separate certifications must state that the HA and Public Child Welfare Agency agree to cooperate with HUD and provide requested data to the HUD office or HUD-approved contractor delegated the responsibility for the program evaluation. No specific language for this certification is prescribed by HUD.

(E) Family Unification Application Rating Process

(1) General

The HUD Office is responsible for rating the applications, and HUD Headquarters is responsible for selection of applications (including applications rated by the Native American Programs Office) that will receive assistance under the Family Unification Program. The HUD Office will initially screen all applications and determine any technical deficiencies based on the application submission requirements.

Each application submitted in response to the NOFA must receive, in order to be eligible for funding, at least 30 points for Threshold Criterion 1: Unmet Housing Needs; at least 10 points for Threshold Criterion 2: Efforts of HA to Provide Area-Wide Housing Opportunities for Families; and must meet the requirements for Threshold Criterion 3: Coordination between HA and Public Child Welfare Agency, and Threshold Criterion 4: Public Child Welfare Agency Statement of Need for Family Unification Program.

(2) Threshold Criteria

(a) Selection Criterion 1: Unmet Housing Needs (50 points).

(i) Description: This criterion assesses the unmet housing need in the primary area specified in the HA's application compared to the unmet housing need for the allocation area. Unmet housing need is defined as the number of very lowincome renter households with housing problems based on 1990 Census, minus the number of Federally-assisted housing units provided since the 1990 Census.

In awarding points under this criterion, HUD will, to the extent practicable, consider all units provided since the 1990 Census under the Section 8 Rental Voucher and Certificate programs, any other Section 8 programs, the Public and Indian Housing programs, the Section 202 program, and the Farmers Home Administration's Section 515 Rural Rental Housing program.

- (ii) Rating and Assessment: The number of points assigned is based on the percentage of the allocation area's unmet housing need that is within the HA's primary area. State or Regional Housing Agencies will receive points based on the areas they intend to serve with this allocation, e.g., the entire allocation area or the localities within the allocation area specified in the application. The HUD Office will assign one of the following point totals:
- one of the following point totals:

 50 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing need is greater than 50 percent of the allocation area's unmet
- 45 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing need is equal to or less than 50 percent but greater than 40 percent of the allocation area's unmet need.
- 40 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing need is equal to or less than 40 percent but greater than 30 percent of the allocation area's unmet need.
- 35 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing need is equal to or less than 30 percent but greater than 20 percent of the allocation area's unmet need.
- 30 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing need is equal to or less than 20 percent but greater than 10 percent of the allocation area's unmet need.
- 25 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing need is equal to or less than 10 percent but greater than 5 of the allocation area's unmet need.
- 20 points. If the HA's percentage of unmet housing is equal to or less than 5 percent (but greater than zero) of the allocation area's unmet need.
- 0 points. If the HA has no unmet housing need (zero percent). The HUD Office will not consider for funding any HA application receiving zero (0) points

In accordance with Notice PIH 91–45, the HUD Office will notify the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) of applications it receives and ask that FmHA provide advisory comments concerning the market for additional assisted housing or the possible impact the proposed units may have on FmHA projects. Applications for which FmHA has provided comments expressing concerns about market need or the continued stability of existing FmHA projects, with which HUD agrees, will receive zero points for this criterion.

(b) Selection Criterion 2: Efforts of HA to Provide Area-Wide Housing Opportunities for Families (60 points).

(i) Description: Many HAs have undertaken voluntary efforts to provide area-wide housing opportunities for

families. The efforts described in response to this selection criterion must be beyond those required by federal law or regulation such as the portability provisions of the Section 8 rental voucher and certificate programs. HAs in metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas are eligible for points under this criterion. The HUD Office will assign points to HAs that have established cooperative agreements with other HAs or created a consortium of HAs in order to facilitate the transfer of families and their rental assistance between HA jurisdictions. In addition, the HUD Office will assign points to HAs that have established relationships with nonprofit groups to provide families with additional counseling, or have directly provided counseling, to increase the likelihood of a successful move by the families to areas that do not have large concentrations of poverty.

(ii) Rating and Assessment: The HUD Office will assign point values for any of the following assessments for which the HA qualifies and add the points for all the assessments (maximum of 60 points) to determine the total points for

this Selection Criterion:

• 10 points—Assign 10 points if the HA documents that it participates in an area-wide rental voucher and certificate exchange program where all HAs absorb portable Section 8 families.

- 10 points—Assign 10 points if the HA certifies that its administrative plan does not include a "residency preference" for selection of families to participate in its rental voucher and certificate programs or the HA certifies that it will eliminate immediately any "residency preference" currently in its administrative plan.
- 10 points—Assign 10 points if the HA documents that it has established a contractual relationship with a nonprofit agency or the local governmental entity to provide housing counseling for families that want to move to lowpoverty or non-minority areas. The five HAs approved for the FY 93 Moving to Opportunity (MTO) for Fair Housing Demonstration and any other HAs that receive counseling funds from HUD in settlement of litigation involving desegregation may qualify for points under this assessment, but these HAs must identify all activities undertaken, other than those funded and required under the MTO Demonstration or the court-ordered plans, to expand housing opportunities.
- 10 points—Assign 10 points if the HA documents that it requested from HUD, and HUD approved, the authority to utilize exceptions to the fair market rent limitations as allowed under 24 CFR 882.106(a)(4) to allow families to