



Qualifying for the HCV Program

To qualify for the Housing Choice Voucher program an applicant family must be called from the waiting list and then must meet the following eligibility requirements. For further information on these requirements, see Chapter 3 of [CHA's HCV Administrative Plan](#).

Income

A family's total income must not exceed [80% of the Area Median Income](#).

Citizenship or Eligible Immigration Status

At least one member of the household must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national or have eligible immigration status.

Social Security Numbers

All members of the household must provide a complete and accurate social security number (SSN). This requirement does not apply to non-citizens who do not have eligible immigration status.

Criminal Activity

If any household member has ever been convicted of arson, of producing or manufacturing methamphetamine, or any other crime that requires them to be registered as a lifetime sex offender under a state sex offender registration program, the individual is not eligible. In addition, if any household member is currently engaged in or has engaged in any of the following criminal activities within the past three years, the family will be denied assistance.

- Drug-related criminal activity, which includes the possession, distribution, sale or use of medical marijuana;
- Violent criminal activity;
- Illegal possession or use of a firearm or aggravated assault weapon;
- Other criminal activity as outlined in CHA's Administrative Plan

Previous Behavior

CHA will also deny a family assistance if:

- The family does not provide complete or accurate information that CHA requires.
- Any family member has been evicted from federally assisted housing in the last three years, or has been evicted in the last three years for drug-related criminal activity. CHA can make limited exceptions to this rule in specific cases as described in the HCV Administrative Plan.
- Any public housing authority (PHA) has previously terminated assistance for any family member under any federal assisted housing program within the last 3 years. This policy excludes voluntary terminations.
- Any family member has committed fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program.
- The family owes rent or other amounts to any PHA as described in the HCV Administrative Plan, unless the family repays the full amount of the debt prior to being selected from the waiting list.
- The family has breached the terms of a repayment agreement entered into with the CHA, unless the family repays the full amount of the debt covered in the repayment agreement prior to being selected from the waiting list.
- A family member has engaged in or threatened violent or abusive behavior toward CHA personnel (including a CHA employee or a CHA contractor, subcontractor or agent).
- The CHA has reasonable cause to believe that any household member's current use or pattern of use of illegal drugs or alcohol may threaten the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.

If an applicant family is denied assistance for any of the reasons listed above, they have the right to an informal review to dispute the decision.