

Find Affordable Rental Housing

If you have a low income and need affordable rental housing, government programs may help. Public housing agencies use federal funds to run housing programs locally, working with building owners to subsidize rent for eligible people.



Federal Funds



Housing Agency



Low-Income People

Privately-Owned Subsidized Housing

The government gives some property owners money to provide low-rent apartments. Apply at a property's rental office. Learn more and search for low-rent apartments at <https://apps.hud.gov/apps/section8>.

To be eligible:

- 1 You must be within the income limit set for the location and size of your family.
- 2 You may have to meet other requirements set by the property owner.



Low-Rent Apartments

Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing

Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8)

You find your own housing. The government pays your landlord the amount allowed by your voucher each month. You pay the difference, if any.

- You can rent an apartment, townhouse, or single-family home.
- The property must meet health and safety standards.
- Your voucher amount is based on your income, family composition, and local housing costs.



Housing Vouchers

Public Housing

You rent housing from the local public housing agency based on your gross annual income.

- Housing may include apartments, townhouses, or single-family homes.
- The housing agency will contact your current and past landlords, and may visit you at your current home to determine your suitability as a tenant.



Public Housing

To be eligible for either program, you must be:



- 1 A family, senior citizen, or person with a disability



- 2 Within the program's income limits



- 3 A U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen

To apply for either program:



- 1 Contact your local public housing agency. Find yours at <https://go.usa.gov/xn4ab>.








- 2 Complete an application that will ask about your income, family composition, employer, and bank. The housing agency will verify this information.



- 3 Provide all necessary documents such as photo ID, birth certificates, and tax returns at the time of your appointment.

Wait times for these programs can be long and the waiting list may be closed when you try to apply. Keep checking your local public housing agency's website for their list to reopen.

To learn more about these programs, call the PIH Customer Service Center at 1-800-955-2232 Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM ET, or visit <https://www.USA.gov/finding-home>.

Compare Affordable Rental Housing	 Low income	 Family, senior or person with a disability	 U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen	 You find the housing	 Waiting list
Privately-Owned Subsidized Housing	✓			✓	
Housing Choice Vouchers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Housing	✓	✓	✓		✓