

Section 8 Rental Assistance Frequently Asked Questions

I've just applied, how long will I have to wait for help?

There is not a simple answer to this question because an applicant's wait will depend upon various items: date and time of application, residency, how many families leave the program, etc. The average wait is approximately one to four years.

Where am I on the waiting list?

The Housing Authority does not give out numbers on the waiting list, simply because your position fluctuates as new applicants are added and others are taken off the waiting list. Your number would not tell you how much longer you would have to wait in any case.

Do I have to be a city resident to be assisted?

You may either reside within the city limits of Redding or work within the city limits.

What if I do not live in Redding, but would like to move to Redding?

If you do not live or work within the city limits of Redding, you should also apply with the housing authority in the area where you reside. You should apply for rental assistance at the Shasta County Housing Authority located in the Shasta County Administrative Building at 1450 Court Street, Suite 108, Redding, California, (530) 225-5160 if you live on the outskirts of Redding, or in Anderson, Shasta Lake City, or any other area in Shasta County other than within the city limits of Redding.

How do I report changes to my application?

While on the waiting list, you must report changes in where you live, your mailing address, and changes in who lives in your home. These changes must be reported by completing a waiting list application/update form. You may obtain this form at our office, or you may call (530) 225-4418 to request a form be mailed to you. Our office is located at 777 Cypress Avenue in Redding. For the HEARING IMPAIRED using a TDD machine, our TDD line is (530) 225-4363.

How will I know when I am at the top of the waiting list?

You will be notified by mail when you are at the top of the waiting list. That is why you must report any changes in your mailing address.

I am a person with disabilities, will I get housing more quickly?

Persons with disabilities will be housed before single persons under the age of 62.

Do you have emergency housing or emergency assistance?

No. Federally subsidized housing is not an entitlement program like other forms of public assistance. That is, even though you may be eligible for, and in need of housing assistance, there are not enough funds to assist everyone who qualifies. This is why the waiting list and the wait are so long.

I have a landlord who is willing to rent to me under the Section 8 program. Can I get a Voucher immediately?

The Housing Authority does not give a preference to applicants who are "in-place," meaning they are living in a unit where the owner accepts Section 8. The Section 8 waiting list is a wait for funding, not for housing.

I'm homeless, can you help me?

Unfortunately, the Housing Authority does not have emergency housing or subsidy available. We will refer you to agencies in the area that provide emergency shelter and assistance.

My family is getting evicted, how can you help?

Again, unfortunately, the Housing Authority does not operate emergency housing or emergency subsidy. We were established to provide affordable rental housing. Additionally, we are required to provide housing assistance to families according to date and time of application.

What documents are needed to qualify? Social security cards, photo identification, birth certificates, marriage licenses, bank statements, proof of income, and criminal records are some of the documents that will be required to determine eligibility for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. These documents will be required when you reach the top of the waiting list.

Do I have to be a citizen to qualify?

HUD provides assistance only for citizens or non-citizens with eligible immigration status.

Do I have to be low income to qualify?

Regulations from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandate that no new admission may exceed the income limits listed below:

Am I allowed to possess or use medical marijuana?

The Federal government does not recognize the California Compassionate Use Act and considers Cannabis (a.k.a. Marijuana) an illegal substance. You are not allowed to smoke, cultivate, or sell Cannabis while you are a participant on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, whether you have a prescription or not. The Housing Choice Voucher Program is a federally funded program; so, if you participate in any of the above listed behaviors, you will be denied or terminated from rental assistance.

50% OF MEDIAN INCOME		
Family Size	Annual	Per Month
1	\$19,750	\$1,646
2	\$22,550	\$1,879
3	\$25,350	\$2,113
4	\$28,150	\$2,346
5	\$30,450	\$2,538
6	\$32,700	\$2,725
7	\$34,950	\$2,913
8	\$37,200	\$3,100