



Persons with disabilities have the right to request reasonable accommodations to participate in the application process. If you need assistance to apply online and require a paper application, or if you need another type of reasonable accommodation, please contact Leased Housing at (510) 587-2100.

For persons with hearing impairments, please call our TDD number at (510) 587-7119.

Language translation services are available in 151 languages at all offices at no cost. Please call (510) 587-2100 for assistance.

所有办事处均免费提供 151 种语言的翻译服务

Los servicios de traducción en 151 idiomas están disponibles en todas las oficinas sin ningún costo.

Trương chính thông dịch đầy đủ cho tới 151 tiếng nói miệng phí cho quý vị đang có tại nhiều văn phòng gần đây.

2025 WAITLIST OPENING for the HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program?

The HCV program, also known as Section 8, is a federal program that provides rental assistance to low-income eligible individuals allowing them to afford and live in safe and decent privately owned rental properties throughout Oakland.

How do I apply?

Pre-applications will be accepted through OHA's portal **Tuesday, January 7, 2025, 12:00 AM PST through Sunday, January 26, 2025, 11:59 PM PST**. There is no fee for completing a pre-application. This is **NOT** a first come, first served process.

- 1) Using a computer or mobile device with Internet access, visit <https://myohaportal.oakha.org> to complete and submit your pre-application through OHA's portal. **Completed pre-applications must be submitted by the Sunday, January 26, 2025, 11:59 PM PST deadline.**
 - a. A valid email address and a telephone number are required to submit a pre-application. If you do not have an email, you can create an email in the portal. If you do not have a telephone number, use a family member's telephone number.





- 2) If you do not have a computer or mobile device and need an alternative method to submit your pre-application, you may visit an OHA Application Assistance Center or call the Application Assistance Line (510) 587-5168, and staff will help you complete your pre-application. The Authority does not require you to have an email address to submit your pre-application using the non-electronic submission method.

Once your pre-application is received, you will receive a confirmation message. Please save your confirmation as record of your pre-application.

Who can apply for the HCV Waitlist?

Anyone may apply. All applicants must be 18 years of age or older at the time of pre-application.

What do I need to apply?

The minimum, mandatory information needed to complete and submit a pre-application is:

1. Your current mailing address
2. Names, dates of birth, social security numbers (if applicable) and genders of all members of the household (household = all members, including minors, that will live in the assisted unit)
3. Household annual gross income

Is the pre-application available in other languages?

Yes. The pre-application is available in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. The flyer and the Frequently Asked Questions and Answers are also available in these languages. Go to <http://oakha.org/AffordableHousing/Pages/Wait-Lists.aspx>; or, if you need a paper version in your preferred language, call (510) 587-2100 or TDD (510) 587-7119 or visit an OHA Application Assistance Center for assistance. See the next question for locations.

What if I need help or have questions?

OHA staff are available to answer questions and assist with submitting your pre-application to the online portal. Please visit one of our OHA Application Assistance Center’s on one of the following dates and times below or call (510) 587-5168 or TDD (510) 587-7119.

<p>East District Office 1327 65th Ave. Oakland, CA 94621</p>	<p>Leased Housing Dept 1540 Webster Street Oakland, CA 94612</p>	<p>West District Office 935 Union Street Oakland, CA 94607</p>
<p>Tuesday – Thursday 10am-2pm 1/7/25 – 1/9/25 1/14/25 – 1/16/25 1/21/25 – 1/23/25</p>	<p>Tuesday – Thursday 10am-6pm 1/7/25 – 1/9/25 1/14/25 – 1/16/25 1/21/25 – 1/23/25</p> <p>Saturday 9am-2pm 1/11/25, 1/18/25 & 1/25/25</p>	<p>Tuesday – Thursday 10am-2pm 1/7/25 – 1/9/25 1/14/25 – 1/16/25 1/21/25 – 1/23/25</p>



How will OHA determine who will be added to the waiting list?

All pre-applications received during the opening period will go into a random computerized lottery. OHA will place **5,000** applicants on the 2025 HCV waitlist. If selected in the random computerized lottery, you will be placed on the waitlist. Your position on the waitlist will be determined by preferences which will be subject to verification. Applicants will receive notification of their lottery status within 120 days from the waitlist closing.

Are there any admission preferences?

Yes. The following are admission preferences:

- 1) **Veteran** – Applicants who are veterans or active members of the military.
- 2) **Families with Students Attending School in Oakland:** Households with students enrolled in any K-12 school or accredited institution of higher education within the city of Oakland who are experiencing homelessness or are at a risk of homelessness. Homelessness is defined as an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
 - Living Situations Not Meant for Human Habitation: Residing in places like cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, airports, or campgrounds.
 - Emergency or Transitional Shelters: Staying in shelters or hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations or government programs.
 - Exiting Institutions: Leaving institutions after 90 days or less, having been homeless before entry.
 - Imminent Loss of Housing: Facing eviction within 14 days without alternative housing options or support networks.
 - Unstable Housing Situations:
 - Sharing housing due to loss of home or economic hardship.
 - Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds due to lack of alternatives.
 - Abandoned in hospitals.
 - Living in substandard housing or similar settings.
 - Being migratory children in the above situations.
 - Fleeing Dangerous Situations: Escaping domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking without safe housing alternatives or support networks.
 - At Risk of Homelessness: Those with annual incomes below 30% of the area's median family income, lacking resources or support networks to prevent moving to emergency shelters or similar places, moving two or more times in 60 days prior to application, may be considered at risk of homelessness.

The Authority partners with Alameda County Coordinated Entry to connect eligible families to interim and permanent housing solutions. If you are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness you can call 2-1-1 or text 898211 or contact a [Housing Resource Center](#) in your area for an assessment.





Are there other eligibility requirements?

Yes.

- 1) At least one household member must be a U.S Citizen, U.S. National, or Non-Citizen with eligible immigration status. Families that include individuals with eligible and ineligible immigration status are considered mixed families; and
- 2) No household member can be subject to a lifetime registration requirement under any of the 50 states' sex offender registration program; and
- 3) No household member can have been convicted of drug-related criminal activity for the production or manufacture of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing; and
- 4) The total income of all the people listed on the pre-application must not exceed the current income limits. Income includes, but is not limited to wages, Social Security benefits, pensions, child support, unemployment benefits, CalWin (TANF), or net income from a business, etc.

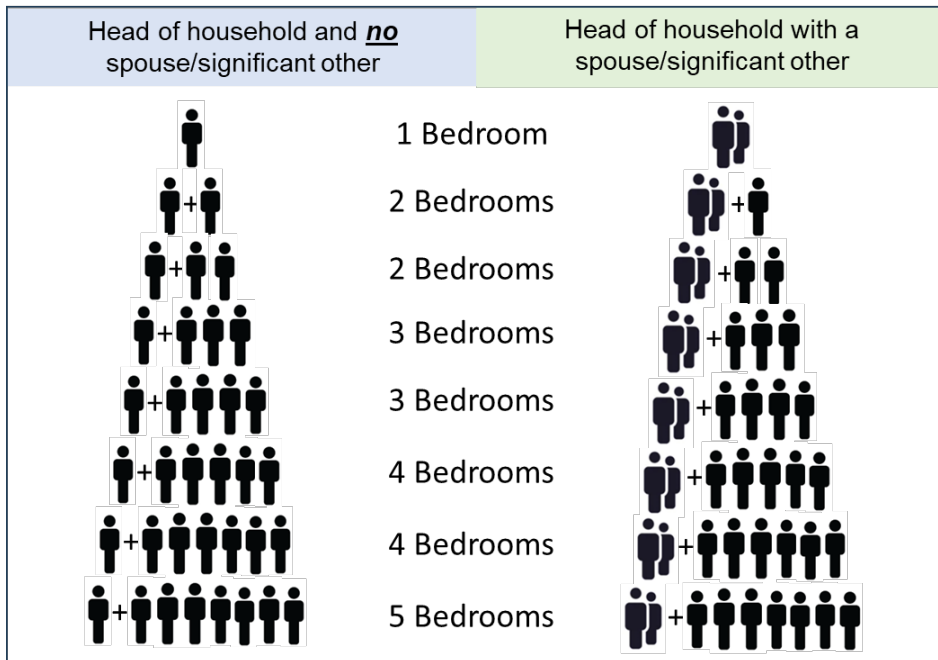
2024 Income Limits by # of Persons in Family							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
\$54,500	\$62,300	\$70,100	\$77,850	\$84,100	\$90,350	\$96,550	102,800

What size voucher do I qualify for?

The voucher size for which an applicant family qualifies depends on their household size and composition, and any verifiable special needs. **OHA will assign one-bedroom for each two persons regardless of gender or age, based on the below household composition.**



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How do I correct a mistake on or update my pre-application?

Once submitted, you may only change or update your contact information in the applicant portal <http://myohportal.oakha.org/>. **Do not submit another pre-application.** Duplicate pre-applications will be removed.

What is the process once my pre-application has been submitted?

A computerized random lottery will determine which eligible applicants will be added to the 2025 HCV waitlist and in which order. You will receive an email notification if you are selected for the waitlist or not selected.

If I am added to the waitlist, what happens next?

Applicants are pulled from the waitlist based on their position on the waitlist. When pulled, Applicants are screened for program eligibility, which includes income eligibility and criminal background screening. Once program eligibility is confirmed, Applicant households are invited to attend a Briefing. At the Briefing, attendees will be issued their voucher and will learn the process for how to use the voucher. Applicant families are responsible for their housing search and identifying a rental unit in the city of Oakland where they can use the voucher.

How long will it take my name to reach the top of the waitlist?

OHA cannot predict how long you will be on the waitlist.

Will my chances be better if I apply more than once?





Oakland Housing Authority

No, every household has the opportunity to apply only once. OHA will remove duplicate pre-applications.

How do I inform OHA if my address changes after I submit my pre-application?

It is your responsibility to notify OHA of changes to your address and contact information. Log into the OHA online Applicant Portal at <http://myohaportal.oakha.org/> to update your address or contact details. You can also contact OHA for assistance at (510) 587-5168 OR TDD 510-587-7119. If we are unable to contact you, your name will be removed from the waitlist.



The City of Oakland prohibits rental discrimination based on criminal history per the Ronald V. Dellums and Simbarashe Sherry Fair Chance Access to Housing Ordinance No 13581 C.M.S. (O.M.C. 8.25). Visit <http://oaha.org/AffordableHousing/HowDoIApplyForHousing/Documents/Fair-Chance-Ordinance.Tenant-Notice.10.5.2020.pdf> for more information.



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