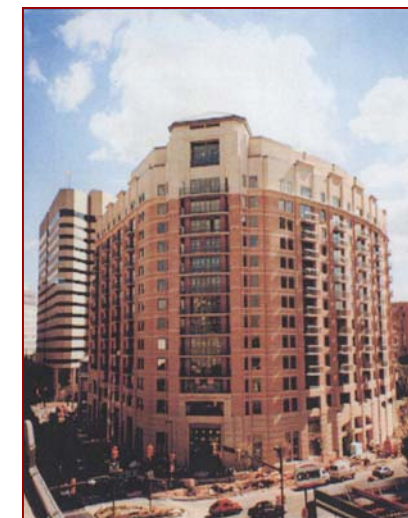




Receiving Rental Assistance through the Housing Opportunities Commission



All About HOC's Waiting Lists for Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher Program



Housing Resources Division
Housing Opportunities Commission
10400 Detrick Ave., Kensington, MD 20895

240-773-9009

Email: rentasst@hocmc.org

Who is Eligible to Receive a Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing? **

To be considered eligible, a family's gross income may not exceed 50% of the local median family income. The local median family income for a family of four in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area is \$102,700 (as of 2009).

Family Size	Income (maximum)
1	\$ 35,950
2	\$ 41,100
3	\$ 46,200
4	\$ 51,350
5	\$ 55,450
6	\$ 59,550
7	\$ 63,650
8	\$ 67,800

****Currently, the waiting lists are closed to new applicants.**

USEFUL NUMBERS

HOC Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher Program: 240-773-9009

Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit Program (MPDU): 240-777-3600

Emergency Housing:
(Montgomery County Health & Human Services)
Rockville: 240-777-4550
Silver Spring: 240-777-3075
UpCounty: 240-777-4448

Rental Assistance Program: 240-777-4400
(through Montgomery County Health & Human Services)

Housing Discrimination Complaint Hotline: 240-777-8450



RENTAL SUBSIDY PROGRAMS

The Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) offers two main rental subsidy programs for lower income households: **The Housing Choice Voucher Program** and the **Public Housing** program.

Each program is designed to limit your rent payment to approximately 30 percent of your income. The difference between the two programs is that if you are accepted into HOC's Public Housing program, you will be offered a home that HOC owns.

If you are accepted into the Housing Choice Voucher Program, you will receive a voucher that entitles you to rent a home from a private landlord, as long as the cost of the apartment falls under federal fair market rent prices (called "Payment Standards") which are published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. *(The fair market rent prices are published on HOC's website: www.hocmc.org under Housing Programs, Housing Choice Voucher)*

HOC WAITING LISTS

HOC runs both programs through a waiting list. Each program has a separate waiting list. People who want to apply for either program can apply **ONLY** when the waiting list for that program opens. You can apply for both programs.

Currently, the waiting lists for both programs are closed to new applicants.

When HOC decides to open either the Public Housing waiting list or the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list, HOC announces the openings at least 60 days in advance on the home page of the its website: www.hocmc.org and places ads in local newspapers and in the *Washington Post*. To help publicize the opening of the lists, HOC issues press releases and notifies community groups of the opening dates.



HOC has two Customer Service Centers to serve its clients. Above: HOC's Silver Spring Customer Service Center is located at 8241 Georgia Ave., 3rd floor, Silver Spring. Below: Gaithersburg Customer Service Center at 101 Lakeforest Blvd., Gaithersburg.



HOW THE WAITING LIST WORKS

Once the waiting list is open, anyone can apply for the program. HOC does, however, give priority to those who live or work in Montgomery County.

You can apply either online, through the HOC website (www.hocmc.org) or you can print out paper applications from the HOC website and mail them to HOC. Paper applications may also be picked up at any County library, government service center or HOC Customer Service Center and mailed back to HOC (mailing instructions are on the application).

AFTER YOU APPLY...

Once you have applied for the waiting list you will receive a postcard from HOC acknowledging receipt of your application.

After you apply, your name is put into a "pool" with the names of those who have applied for the program. As openings arise, or as vouchers become available, HOC conducts random lotteries (computerized) to choose names from the pool of applicants.

If your name is chosen, HOC will contact you by mail and invite you to come in for an interview. Instructions on what papers you should bring to the interview are included in the letter to you.

If you do not receive a letter from HOC stating that your name has been chosen in the lottery, it means that your name has not yet been chosen.

NOTE:

Once you have applied for housing assistance, it is very important to keep your contact information up-to-date with HOC. If your address changes after you have applied to the waiting list, you must notify HOC in writing by sending a letter to HOC Waiting List, Housing Opportunities Commission, 10400 Detrick Ave., Kensington, MD, 20895.

For more information, call:
240-773-9009

Information contained in this brochure is current as of Summer 2009. Check our website for updates: www.hocmc.org.