

## Emergency Housing Vouchers: Prioritized Subpopulations

In order to be eligible for an Emergency Housing Voucher, an individual or family must fall into at least one of the six subpopulations within the four eligible categories:

1. Experiencing homelessness: homeless and chronically homeless
2. At-risk of homelessness: seniors age 62 and older
3. Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking: survivors
4. Recently homeless, and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent homelessness or risk of housing instability: Move-on eligible residents in current PSH programs (not limited to CoC-only) and recently homeless eligible residents in RRH programs

<p><b>Category 1: Homeless</b> <i>(as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a))</i></p>	<p>An individual or family head of household is considered experiencing homelessness if any of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living outdoors or another place not meant for human habitation, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.</li> <li>• Living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements, like congregate shelter, transitional housing, hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations or governmental programs for low-income individuals.</li> <li>• Exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.</li> <li>• Primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance, no subsequent residence has been identified; and they are no resources or support networks, to obtain other permanent housing.</li> <li>• Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who (i) Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a); (ii) Does not have a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the last 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance; (iii) Two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for</li> </ul>
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	<p>homeless assistance; <b>and</b> (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities; chronic physical health or mental health conditions; substance addiction; histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect); the presence of a child or youth with a disability; or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment.</p>
<p><b>Category 1: Chronically homeless</b></p>	<p>An individual or family head of household is considered experiencing chronic homelessness if they:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are living outdoors or other place not meant for human habitation (i.e. car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground), emergency shelter or safe haven continuously for at least the last 12 months or on 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, totaling at least 12 months; <b>and</b></li> <li>2. Have a disability, as defined by the HEARTH Act as:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Long continuing or indefinite, substantially impedes the individual's ability to live independently and could be improved with suitable housing, and is</li> <li>b. A diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from a brain injury, HIV/AIDS, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of 2 or more of those conditions.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Category 2: Seniors (62 years old or older) who are at-risk of homelessness</b> <i>(as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney- Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(1))</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. A senior is considered at-risk of experiencing homeless if they:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have an annual income below 30% area median income;</li> <li>b. Do not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or into homelessness;</li> <li>c. <b>And</b> meets one of the following conditions:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding applying for homelessness assistance;</li> <li>• Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;</li> <li>• Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days of the date of application for assistance;</li> <li>• Lives in a hotel or motel that is <b>not</b> paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;</li> </ul> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit with more than two people, or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 people per room.</li> <li>• Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution);</li> </ul>
<p><b>Category 3: Survivors Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking</b> <i>(as defined in the Notice PIH 2021-15)</i></p>	<p>An individual or family fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.</p> <p>This includes HUD-assisted tenants who reasonably believe there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if they remain in the same unit. Or in the case of sexual assault, if it occurred on the premise during the 90-day period preceding the date of the request for transfer.</p>
<p><b>Category 4: Persons living in rapid rehousing programs</b></p>	<p>An individual or family is eligible in this category if they are currently living in a rapid rehousing (RRH) program and entered from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A place not meant for human habitation (i.e. park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport or camping ground)</li> <li>• A publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements, like congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs; or</li> <li>• Exiting an institution where (s)he has resided less than 90 days and who came from either of the above living situations immediately before entering that institution.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Category 4: Persons living in permanent supportive housing programs that are ready to Move on</b></p>	<p>An individual or family is eligible in this category if they are currently living in a permanent supportive housing (PSH) program. The household no longer needs intensive supportive services but still needs affordable housing.</p>

**Domestic violence** includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by:

- a. a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim (the term “spouse or intimate partner of the victim” includes a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, as determined by the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship),
- b. a person with whom the victim shares a child in common,
- c. a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner,
- d. a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or
- e. any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

**Dating violence** means violence committed by a person:

- a. Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- b. Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
  1. The length of the relationship;
  2. The type of relationship; and
  3. The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

**Sexual assault** means any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, Tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent.

**Stalking** means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- (1) Fear for the person’s individual safety or the safety of others; or
- (2) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

**Human trafficking** includes both sex and labor trafficking, as outlined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7102). These are defined as:

*Sex trafficking* means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; (and)

*Labor trafficking* means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.