



# Applying for Public Housing

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING?

Public Housing Applications can be obtained at local borough offices, or you may request that the office mail you a copy. To be eligible for public housing, you must be 18 or older, and have some source of income that does not exceed the New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA) limit. On the application, applicants are requested to select a first and second borough choice and provide information about their total household income, family composition and current living situation. Finished applications must then be submitted to the local borough office. Applications are assigned a priority code based upon the information provided, and placed on the Housing Authority's preliminary waiting list for an eligibility interview. Within 60 days of receipt of your application you will receive an acknowledgement letter.

To see the New York Housing Authority's **Guide To Applying For Public Housing** please visit: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycha/downloads/pdf/070008.pdf>

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR A SECTION 8 VOUCHER?

In order to be considered for Section 8 Housing Assistance, a completed application must be submitted along with documentation that you qualify for the program. Applications for the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program may be picked up from any of the five Borough Applications Offices or you may call the Applications Offices to have one mailed to you).

Under the Section 8 program, qualified families receive a voucher from NYCHA that can be used to pay a portion of their rent to any participating landlord. To receive a Section 8 voucher, a family must meet eligibility guidelines, including qualifying in one of the program's emergency categories, complete an application and eligibility interview, and complete the Section 8 screening process.

If you qualify for one of the emergency categories listed below, your Section 8 application will be considered on an accelerated basis. Each emergency category requires a referral or other documentation and qualifies applicants for a Section 8 priority code.

- Victims of Domestic Violence
- Applicants referred by the District Attorney's Office for the Intimidated Witness Program
- Applicants referred by the Administration for Children's Services' (ACS) Independent Living and Family Unification Programs

Qualified applicants are assigned a priority code based upon information provided, and placed on the Housing Authority's preliminary waiting list to await an eligibility interview. Within 60 days of receipt of your application, you will receive an acknowledgement letter.

Applicants are then scheduled for eligibility interviews based upon priority and application filing date and the availability of vouchers. Interviews are conducted at the Borough Applications Offices to verify family size and composition, housing priority, total family income and citizenship/immigration status.

### NYCHA Applications Information Offices

**BRONX:** 718-329-7859  
1 Fordham Plaza, 5th floor  
Bronx, NY 10458

**BROOKLYN / STATEN ISLAND:**  
718-250-5900  
350 Livingston St., 2nd floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

**MANHATTAN / QUEENS:**  
212-828-7100  
55 West 125 St., 7th floor  
New York, NY 10027  
Staten Island, NY 10301

Applicants who receive a Section 8 voucher will be responsible for submitting the apartment paperwork for inspection and approval. Section 8 new rental vouchers are usually valid for only 6 months, generally with no extensions.

To see the New York Housing Authority's **Guide To Applying For The Section 8 Housing Assistance Program** please visit: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycha/downloads/pdf/070213N.pdf>

**Applications for Public Housing can be sent to this address:**

New York City Housing Authority  
Post Office Box 1342  
Church Street Station  
New York, NY 10008

**Applications for Section 8 can be sent to this address:**

New York City Housing Authority  
Post Office Box 445  
Church Street Station  
New York, NY 10008

\*\*Please note that borough choice is a significant factor in determining how soon an applicant will be placed in Public Housing, or receive a Section 8 voucher. Applicants who choose Manhattan or Queens can expect to wait much longer for placement than those selecting Brooklyn, the Bronx or Staten Island.\*\*

**CAN I APPLY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING OR SECTION 8 IF I HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD?**

Criminal record checks are conducted when applying for both Public Housing and Section 8. Criminal background ineligibility rules are stricter for applicants moving into NYCHA Public Housing than for Section 8. Applicants who wish to appeal Section 8 or Public Housing denials based on their criminal record can request a NYCHA informal hearing. For more information on Public Housing please visit: <http://www.newdestinyhousing.org>