

# Tenant-Based Waiting List Frequently Asked Questions

### Is the Housing Choice Voucher Program Waiting List open?

The Housing Choice Voucher Tenant-Based Waiting List is currently closed to new applicants.

### What is the Housing Choice Voucher Program?

The HADC's Housing Choice Voucher Program, commonly known as Section 8, is a federal program that provides rental assistance to eligible low-income households through a Tenant-Based Voucher.

#### What is the Tenant-Based Voucher?

A Tenant-Based Voucher provides rental assistance for families in the private rental market. The voucher is provided to applicants and they can choose any housing that meets the requirements of the program.

The Housing Authority pays a portion of contracted rent in the form of a housing assistance payment to the landlord on behalf of the Participant. The Participant pays the remaining rent, an amount that is roughly equivalent to 30% of their monthly income, and the utility expenses.

## Why does the HADC open its Tenant-Based Waiting List?

The Housing Authority's Waiting List is used to identify applicants for the Housing Choice Voucher Program's tenant-based vouchers. The Housing Authority must ensure full utilization of program funding.

## When can I apply for the waiting list?

The Housing Choice Voucher Tenant-Based Waiting List is currently closed to new applicants.

### How can I apply for the waiting list?

When the Waiting List opens, you will be able to click on a link on the HADC's website, <a href="https://www.dekalbhousing.org">www.dekalbhousing.org</a>, which will take you to the application.

Interested persons must submit the application online using a computer, smartphone, or other electronic device with Internet access. Paper applications will NOT be available nor accepted at any Housing Authority location.

To apply, you must be 18 years of age or an emancipated minor. You will be required to submit the following information for the application: your name, social security number, date of birth, mailing address, email address, household income, and number of household members.

#### Preference will be given to residents who live and work in DeKalb County.

If you require a reasonable accommodation, such as assistance in completing an application because of a disability, language translation services, or communication in an alternative format, you may call the HCV Client Services Call Center (404) 270-2500 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday – Thursday and 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Friday during the waiting list opening. Potential registrants with hearing or speech disabilities using TDD or TTY technology may call Georgia Relay Services by dialing 7-1-1 for assistance.

#### Where can I access the Internet?

If you do not have personal access to a computer or electronic device with Internet access, you must submit the application online at locations that offer free use of their computers, such as public libraries. A list of Internet access sites is available on the HADC's website, www.dekalbhousing.org.

## How many applications may I submit?

Only one application per person will be accepted. Applicants can only apply for the Tenant-Based Waiting List.

## Can more than one person in my household submit an application?

Yes. However, each person must be 18 years of age or older or be an emancipated minor in accordance with the laws of the state of Georgia.

## What are the eligibility requirements for an applicant to be admitted into the HADC's Housing Choice Voucher Program?

To be eligible to receive a voucher, you must meet the following requirements at the time you are selected:

• You must be 18 years of age or older, or an emancipated minor.

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- Your household income must meet income guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for DeKalb County, Georgia. Maximum income guidelines may not exceed the low-income limit as determined by HUD annually.
- You must meet all the eligibility guidelines found in the Housing Authority of DeKalb
  County's Administrative Plan. Visit <a href="www.dekalbhousing.org">www.dekalbhousing.org</a> to view or download the
  document.
- You will be required to provide information that will be verified during the screening process. Examples of information include: annual household income, family composition, social security numbers, citizenship or eligible immigration status of all family members, criminal background, and prior termination from housing assistance programs. False information provided during the screening process may result in you being ineligible for HADC housing programs.

## Can I apply for the Waiting List if I was previously terminated from the program or if I am on another waiting list?

Yes. You will not be prohibited from submitting an application; however, when you are selected from the Waiting List, your application will be reviewed in accordance with the HADC's eligibility and screening criteria, which may include a review of your previous participation in a housing assistance program.

## Can I be selected for the Tenant-Based Waiting List if I am currently on another waiting list?

Yes. It's possible to be selected for more than one Waiting List.

## Is there a cost to submit an application for the Waiting List?

No. There is no cost to submit an application. The HADC will never ask for your debit or credit card or any other form of payment to submit an application for its services. Additionally, please do not provide personal information to anyone claiming he or she can guarantee a spot on the waiting list, improve your chances of selection for the waiting list, or ensure that you will receive any benefits from the HADC.

### What happens after I submit the application for the Waiting List?

A confirmation number will be displayed on your screen when you have successfully completed the application. The confirmation will also be emailed to your email address you provided in the application. Applicants should print your registration confirmation for your records.

#### Housing Choice Voucher Program Tenant-Based Waiting List Opening FAQs

### When will I be notified whether I made the Waiting List?

Everyone who successfully submitted an application will <u>receive notification by email</u> to inform them that their application is currently under review to determine if they are eligible for the Tenant-Based Waiting List. If you do not provide a valid email address, the Housing Authority will be unable to reach you.

## If selected for the Tenant-Based Waiting List, do I automatically qualify for housing?

No. If selected, you will be contacted for eligibility screening once your name gets to the top of the list. This screening process will determine if you meet the basic eligibility requirements of the program.

## If I make the Tenant-Based Waiting List will I lose my spot on another waiting list?

No, if you make the Tenant-Based Waiting List and you get notified for another Waiting List first, you will keep your spot on the other Waiting List. Even if you reject assistance from one program, you can still keep your spot on the other Waiting List.

## If I am selected for the Tenant-Based Waiting List, when will I receive housing assistance?

As housing assistance becomes available, the HADC will contact you for an eligibility screening appointment. The screening process will determine if you meet the basic eligibility requirements to qualify for the program. If you meet the program requirements, you will receive your tenant-based housing.

For other affordable housing opportunities, please visit <a href="www.georgiahousingsearch.org">www.georgiahousingsearch.org</a>.

