Frequently Asked Questions

What are the eligibility criteria for the Housing Choice Voucher ("HCV" or "Section 8") Program?

Answer: Eligibility for a housing voucher is based on the total annual gross income and family size and is limited to US citizens and specified categories of non-citizens who have eligible immigration status. In general, the family's income may not exceed 50% of the median income for the county or metropolitan area in which the family chooses to live.

When can I apply?

Answer: A pre-application will be available when the waitlist opens.

Can anyone apply to be on the waitlist?

Answer: Yes. Everyone has an equal opportunity to apply for housing. At least one family member listed on the application must be a U.S. citizen or legal immigrant to be eligible and the head of household must be 18 and over to apply.

How can I apply for the Section 8 Program?

Answer: Pre-applications must be submitted online at

<u>https://hialeahHousing.Housingmanager.com</u>. The HHA will assist families who do not have access to a computer, at John F Kennedy Library 190 W 49th Street, Hialeah Florida 33012 on the day of the opening. If you require a reasonable accommodation to apply please contact Leyda Halphen at (786) 257-3526 or by email at hhara@hialeahhousing.org.

How will I know when the waitlist is open?

Answer: Waitlist opening notices will be posted at <u>https://www.hialeahHousing.org</u>. We encourage you to monitor our website for updates.

How do I know if I successfully applied?

Answer: At the end of a successful submission process, your screen will show a confirmation number. (Example: A1234567)

How many applicants will be chosen for the Lottery?

Answer: 2,500 applications will be randomly chosen from all successfully submitted preapplications.

How do I know if I was selected on the lottery?

Answer: All applicants/households selected in the lottery will be notified by mail. Being selected in the lottery does not mean that you will be approved for assistance.

What could make me ineligible for the Section 8 Program?

Here are some of the reasons that would make you ineligible to be part of the program:

Criminal History:

The HHA screens all applicants' criminal history. If it shows that they may not be a suitable tenant as per the HHA's policies, their application may be denied. Applicants are automatically denied for certain crimes, including:

- Manufacturing and production of Methamphetamine in public Housing or elsewhere
- Sex offenses requiring sex offender registration

While a criminal record will not automatically exclude an applicant from consideration, it is an important criterion. In determining eligibility, HHA will consider an applicant's arrest record and mitigating circumstances such as successful rehabilitation.

Immigration Status:

You do not need to be a United States citizen to apply for housing, but a family needs to have at least one member of the family composition who is either a citizen or has an eligible immigration status to receive housing assistance as per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") regulations.

Debt owed to a Public Housing Authority:

Any debt owed to the HHA or any public housing authority will prevent applicant households from successfully applying until the debt is repaid in full.

Previous termination from the program:

The HHA will deny applications if any member of the household has been terminated from any Section 8 program within the past five (5) years.

Failure to provide information:

The family fails to provide information that the HHA or HUD determines is necessary.

False Information

The family does not provide complete and true information.

Is there any application fee(s)?

Answer: No. There is never a fee to apply. Please do not provide any money or provide any personal information to any organization that may contact you.