

Find more info:  
[mainehousing.org/hcv](https://mainehousing.org/hcv)

# Housing Choice Voucher Program

Section 8 rental assistance for  
income-eligible tenants

## Questions about our Housing Choice Voucher Program? We are here to help!

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## Help with rent

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MaineHousing's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program helps eligible tenants by paying part of their monthly rent to their landlords.

HCV tenants often pay 30% to 40% of their household income toward rent. The voucher pays the rest.

A tenant can use a housing choice voucher for an apartment that meets federal housing quality standards. The rent must be within program limits. You can find limits at [mainehousing.org/hcv](http://mainehousing.org/hcv).

We offer this program in parts of Maine without local housing authority voucher programs. Our program helps over 3,800 Maine households each month.



## Qualifications

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Eligible households must meet certain income limits. Limits are different based on location and family size (check [mainehousing.org/hcv](http://mainehousing.org/hcv)). We prioritize Maine people who are homeless.

MaineHousing staff can provide additional information about qualifications if needed.

## How does this program work?

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**Tenants:** Tenants must find an eligible apartment that the landlord is willing to rent to them.

MaineHousing signs a contract for rental assistance with the landlord after we approve the unit and the lease. Then the tenant signs a lease with the landlord for at least one year. The tenant may need to pay a security deposit.

Tenants must comply with the lease and program rules including paying their share of the rent on time and keeping the unit in good condition. It is important for tenants to tell MaineHousing about any changes in income or household size.

**Landlords:** The rental unit must meet federal housing quality standards. The landlord must keep the apartment at those standards as long as they collect housing assistance payments.

The landlord must provide the services agreed to in the lease and the contract. The landlord may propose a new lease or allow the tenant to stay on a month-to-month basis after the first year.

**MaineHousing:** MaineHousing issues the housing choice voucher. We inspect the apartment to be sure it meets federal housing quality standards. Then we sign a contract with the landlord to provide housing assistance payments.

MaineHousing reviews tenant income and inspects the rental unit at least once each year.

Find program and income limits at [mainehousing.org/hcv](http://mainehousing.org/hcv).