

Public Housing

How does public housing work?

Public housing includes government-owned family properties, senior properties, scattered site properties, and mixed-income properties. The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) calculates the amount you pay based on your income.



What additional rights do I have as a public housing resident?

- The right to a lower monthly payment if your income decreases.
- The right to habitable living conditions (CHA will inspect your apartment every other year to ensure that it meets quality standards).
- The right to request an inspection due to poor conditions.
- The right to an informal hearing if CHA is seeking to terminate your voucher.
- The right to request reasonable accommodations due to disability.
- The right to move without notice to CHA if you are a victim of domestic violence (protected by the Violence Against Women Act, or VAWA).
- The right to utilize programs provided by CHA to assist with your housing search, finding employment, financial stability, and achieving homeownership.

What do I have to do to stay in my public housing apartment?

- Participate in CHA's re-certification process annually (involves filling out paperwork and submitting documents).
- Comply with the terms of your lease - this includes paying the full amount of rent on time and refraining from the use and possession of marijuana on the property.
- Report any changes in income to CHA.
- Report to the CHA if anyone moves into or out of your unit.
- Keep your unit in good condition - report any maintenance issues to CHA promptly.
- If you are in a program that requires participation in self-sufficiency or educational programs, make sure you actively engage in those programs.

Who do I contact if I have questions about my public housing apartment?

- You can contact the Public Housing Department of CHA at 312-913-7400.
- You can perform certain actions, like requesting a move, through the CHA's online participant portal.
- Report conditions issues to CHA and 311.
- If your landlord is seeking to terminate your lease or evict you, contact a legal aid organization such as Legal Aid Chicago (312-341-1070).

Have more questions about Public Housing? Chat with us at www.rentervention.com or text "Hi" to 866-773-6837

