



ST. PETERSBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY



Section 8 Wait List Announcement

The St. Petersburg Housing Authority (SPHA) is pleased to announce the wait list opening for Housing Choice Voucher program.



The St. Petersburg Housing Authority will accept applications for the HCV Program **ONLINE ONLY** from 8:00 a.m. EST on Monday, February 01, 2021 until 5 p.m. EST on Thursday, February 04, 2021.

Applications must be submitted online at www.waitlistcheck.com/FL2738 and will only be accepted during the time period listed above.

This is only an announcement. Learn more about the Voucher Wait List opening by visiting www.stpeteha.org.



Housing Choice Voucher Program

Section 8 Waiting List Opens 2/01/2021 to 2/04/2021

Questions and Answers

What is Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) rental assistance?

Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) rental assistance is a government subsidy that allows eligible families to rent in the private market and pay approximately 30% to 40% of their income toward rent. The SPHA pays the remainder of the rent directly to the landlord.

When will the Section 8/HCV waitlist open?

The St. Petersburg Housing Authority (SPHA) will be accepting applications for its Section 8 / Housing Choice Voucher / waiting list, beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, February 01, 2021, until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 04, 2021.

How do I Apply for the HCV program?

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, SPHA is accepting applications ONLINE at www.waitlistcheck.com/FL2738. **No applications will be accepted after the deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 4, 2021.**

What information will I need when I'm applying online?

You will need:

- Birth dates for all family members
- Social Security numbers for all family members
- Your estimated yearly income.
- An email address.
- Your current address (Where you live).

If I have questions with completing the application, can I get help?

Yes. If you need assistance applying, there are two locations where you can go for help. The SPHA offices remain closed to the public due to COVID 19, but we will have staff outside the locations listed below that will be available to assist (COVID 19 safety measures, such as a mask wearing and social distancing, will be strictly enforced):

- **Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 8AM to 12PM**
SPHA Central Office (2001 Gandy Avenue N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702)
- **Wednesday February 3, 2021, 12PM to 4PM**
Jordan Park Management Office (1245 Jordan Park Street S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712.

Do I need an email address to apply?

Yes. The SPHA will be sending updates and notifications using your email address.

What information will I need to apply?

You will need the social security numbers and birthdates of all family members. You will also need to enter your household income.

How is the Section 8 Waitlist sorted?

The SPHA will use a computer-randomized lottery to select applicants for placement on the Section 8 Waiting List.

What are waitlist preferences?

We prioritize Section 8 applicants on the waitlist so those with the most need may receive help as soon as possible. In order to do this accurately, we have a system of priorities in place, known as ‘preferences’. The following are the preferences used by SPHA’s Voucher program:

- Veterans
 - A person who served in the active military service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. Military Reserve members also qualify if currently serving honorably or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. If the veteran dies before being admitted to the program, then the spouse of the veteran shall maintain their place and preference on the waiting list. Status is to be verified by:
 - A DD 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) will serve as proof of service for those no longer active or reserve duty; or
 - A current enlistment contract and/or unexpired military identification card will serve as appropriate proof of veteran status for those still in active reserve status or current enlistment.
- Disabled or Elderly
 - Persons of families where the head of household, spouse or co-head is elderly or disabled. Proof of preference will be required at the time of selection.
- Homeless families
 - Applicant family is currently residing in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Shelter, Permanent Supportive Housing or participating in homeless services at/in/through a participating Pinellas County Continuum of Care agency and have received a written letter of recommendation from that agency not less than 30 days ago.
- Resident of Pinellas County Florida
 - Applicant must provide proof of residency upon selection.

- Victims of Domestic Violence
 - Applicants who are victims of domestic violence will receive a preference. In order to qualify for a preference on the waitlist for Domestic Violence, applicants should provide documentation that incidents of domestic violence have occurred within the past year.
 - Status is to be verified by:
 - Referral from domestic violence shelter (e.g., Hubbard House)
 - Confidentiality of applicant status shall be maintained by the agency in accordance with the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

- Involuntary Displacement
 - Involuntary displacement is defined as displacement due to a formally recognized natural disaster or government action.

 - Families who claim they are being or have been displaced due to a formally recognized natural disaster or governmental action must provide written verification by the displacing unit or agency of government or by a service agency such as the Red Cross.

 - Families may qualify for the preference Involuntary Displacement due to either of the following:
 - Applicant is involuntarily displaced and not living in standard permanent replacement housing due to a government action or natural disaster.
 - Applicant is a part of a relocation effort by a government entity.
 - Local government has condemned their place of living.
 - Applicant will have to vacate their unit because of either of the following:
 - Activities by an agency of the United States or by any local governmental body or agency in connection with code enforcement, public improvements or a real estate development program, including RAD and/or real estate redevelopment.

How do I find out the status of my application or my place on the waiting list?

If you are an applicant, you may login to our [SPHA Waitlist Portal](#) to check your application status after March 01, 2021. Please have your social security number ready.

What does ‘low-income’ mean?

To be considered “low-income,” your total annual income, before taxes, must not exceed the following amounts, by household size:

- 1-person household \$39,400
- 2-person household: \$45,000
- 3-person household: \$50,650
- 4-person household: \$56,250
- 5-person household: \$60,750
- 6-person household: \$65,250
- 7-person household: \$69,750
- 8-person household: \$74,250

To determine your household’s income, add up the gross income (your income *before taxes*) of everyone living under the same roof, plus any amount of money anyone in the household receives on a regular basis, like benefits, or regular financial assistance.



St. Petersburg Housing Authority Section 8 / HCV Waiting List Opens February 01, 2021

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SPHA gives preference to residents of Pinellas County, Florida, military veterans, elderly or disabled, homeless families, victims of domestic violence who have completed a residential program through a state licensed domestic shelter and have been referred to SPHA and families who are subject to involuntary displacement. At the end of the application period, SPHA will use a computer-randomized lottery to select applicants for placement on the Section 8 Waiting List. All applicants will be screened for eligibility when their application comes to the top of the list.

To qualify for the Housing Choice Voucher program, annual gross household income cannot exceed:

Family Size	Maximum Income
1 Person	\$39,400
2 Persons	\$45,000
3 Persons	\$50,650
4 Persons	\$56,250
5 Persons	\$60,750
6 Persons	\$65,250
7 Persons	\$69,750
8 Persons	\$74,250

If you need assistance applying, there are two locations where you can go for help. The SPHA offices remain closed to the public due to COVID 19, but we will have staff located outside the locations listed below that will be available to assist (COVID 19 safety measures, such as a mask wearing and social distancing, will be strictly enforced):

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However, applicants who need a Reasonable Accommodation due to disability can mail a written request to SPHA at 2001 Gandy Blvd. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702. A Reasonable Accommodation request can also be emailed to Waitlist8@stpeteha.org. **Requests must be received by January 27, 2021.** SPHA staff will respond, as appropriate, to provide the requested assistance.

Equal Housing Opportunity: SPHA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability.

