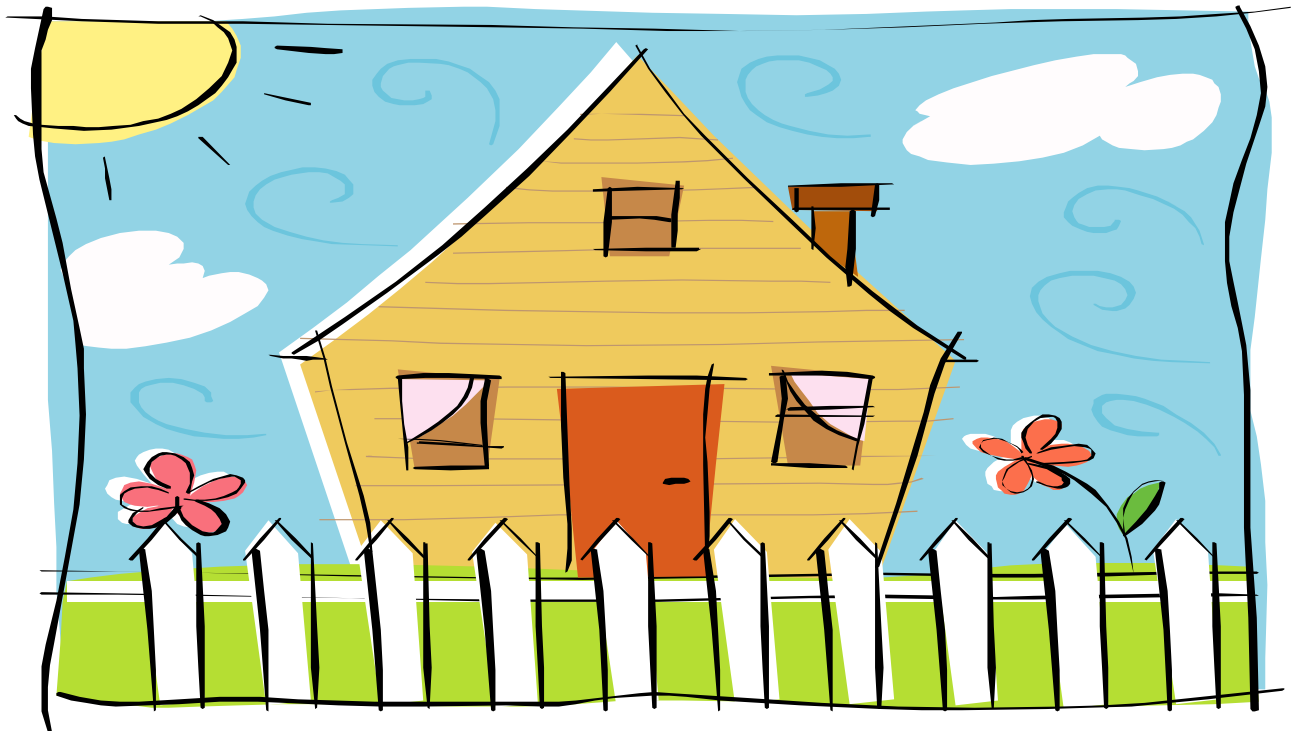




Vallejo Housing Authority

APPLICANT'S GUIDE TO THE WAITING LISTS:

Things you should know



Housing Authority of the City of Vallejo

200 Georgia Street

Vallejo, CA 94590

Phone: (707) 648-4507

Fax: (707) 648-5249

www.ci.vallejo.ca.us

www.waitlistcheck.com

Now that you have applied for Vallejo Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher Program, Project Based Voucher Program or both programs, you probably have a few questions. To begin with, your name was placed on the appropriate waiting list(s) as indicated on your original application.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Housing Choice Voucher Program serves very-low income families and individuals, including those over the age of 62 and those with disabilities. Eligible families will receive rental assistance when they rent a private market unit that passes the Housing Quality Standards inspection.

PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER PROGRAM

Persons submitting their names for the Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List could have also placed their name on a separate wait list for The Project-Based Voucher Program. With this program, the rental assistance is attached to units in pre-selected privately owned housing projects. PARTICIPANT families who move out of Project Based assistance in good standing, after at least one year, may be eligible for a Housing Choice Voucher. Placing your name on this separate waiting list does NOT affect your status on the regular Housing Choice Voucher Program Wait List.

There are several factors, which influence how long a person may have to wait before receiving housing assistance:

1. Date & time application is submitted:

Applications are prioritized according to preference, date and time.

2. Preferences: The more preferences that apply to you the higher on the waiting lists you will be (**For descriptions refer to page four**).

3. Funding Availability: Vallejo Housing Authority is normally 100% leased up in all assisted housing programs and there is little or no new monies coming from the Federal government to provide more Section 8 Vouchers. Therefore, the wait for applicants is much longer due to the fact we can only offer housing assistance when it becomes available (i.e. someone no longer needs housing assistance).

The combination of these factors determines how long it will take, and who is next, to receive housing assistance. It is important to remember that while an applicant may have an urgent need for housing and may qualify for preferences, they will still have to wait until their name is reached. This is because there are thousands of households on our waiting lists and demand for housing far exceeds supply. Unfortunately, assisted housing is not an entitlement in the United States.

You may check the status of your application by logging on the following website www.waitlistcheck.com. You must supply your social security number and four-digit year of birth. If you cannot log on due to a discrepancy regarding your social security number or four-digit year of birth, you must submit a written notice to Vallejo Housing Authority with your correct information. Your position on Vallejo Housing Authority's waiting list may change depending on preference changes from other applicants.

Frequently asked questions

I have just submitted my application, how long will I have to wait for help?

There is not a simple answer to this question because an applicant's wait will depend upon the preferences they qualify for, date and time of their application in addition to availability of housing units/assistance. In general, an applicant's wait for assisted housing is usually several years.

Where am I on the waiting lists?

Vallejo Housing Authority does not give applicants a specific waiting list number. This is because your position on Vallejo Housing Authority's waiting lists may change depending on preference changes from other applicants and as other applicants are removed from the waiting lists.

Note: An applicant does not have any right or entitlement to be listed on the Vallejo Housing Authority's waiting list(s), or to any particular position on the waiting list(s), or to admission to the programs [24 CFR 982.202(c)]. Vallejo Housing will contact you by mail when your name comes to the top of the waiting list(s) for consideration of rental assistance.

Do I have to be a City resident to be assisted?

No. However, Vallejo Housing Authority does give a preference to those persons on the waiting list who are living or working in Vallejo

I am a person with disabilities, will I get housing more quickly?

Persons with disabilities will be assisted before non-disabled single persons under the age of 62.

I am a veteran of the U.S. Military. Will this help me obtain housing?

Yes. With proper verification, a veteran, spouse or widow of a veteran, will be granted an additional preference.

Do you have emergency housing or emergency assistance?

No. Federally subsidized housing is not an entitlement program like other forms of public assistance. That is, even though you may be eligible for and in need of housing assistance, there are not enough funds to assist everyone who qualifies. This is why the waiting lists and the wait are so long.

I have a property owner who is willing to rent to me under the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program, can I get a Voucher immediately?

Vallejo Housing Authority cannot give a preference to applicants who are "in-place", meaning they are living in a unit where the owner accepts Section 8 participants.

I am homeless can you help me?

Unfortunately, Vallejo Housing Authority does not have emergency housing or subsidy available. We will refer you to agencies that provide emergency shelter and assistance, information is available in the Lobby of Vallejo Housing Authority.

My family may be evicted, how can you help?

Again, unfortunately, Vallejo Housing Authority does not operate emergency housing or emergency subsidy. We were established to provide long-term affordable rental housing. Additionally, we are required to provide housing assistance to families according to local and federal preferences, date and time of application.

State & Local Preferences

(Established by Vallejo Housing Authority Board of Commissioners)

Preferences available to select from on your January 2007 application:

- a. **Local Resident** - Do you or your spouse live or work in the City of Vallejo?
- b. **Disabled** - Do you or your spouse have a disability as defined by the Social Security Act?
- c. **Veteran** (DD-214 will be required) - Are you or your spouse an active member of the military? (NOTE: Bad Conduct Discharges do not qualify for Veteran preference)
- d. **Are you homeless with children attending school in Vallejo?**
- e. **Single Persons 62+** - Are you Elderly, Displaced by Government Action/Natural Disaster, Homeless, or Person with Disabilities?

Federal Income Limits

In order to receive housing assistance under any program operated by the City of Vallejo Housing Authority, an applicant’s gross annual income cannot exceed 80% of Vallejo’s median income, as indicated by the “Very Low Income Limits” below:

Annual Income Limits

Household Size	Low Income Limit
1	28,500
2	32,600
3	36,700
4	40,750
5	44,050
6	47,300
7	50,550
8	53,800

Note to Applicants: It is your responsibility to submit **written notice** to Vallejo Housing Authority when your address changes in order to maintain your eligibility for rental assistance. Periodically Vallejo Housing Authority may mail an update notice for all active applicants. If you do not respond to an update, notice or your mail is returned your application will be withdrawn from the waiting list. If your application is withdrawn from the waiting list, you will have to wait until the list opens again to reapply.

Please be advised, if you were previously terminated from the Housing Choice Voucher program for any Violation of Family Obligations, or if you have any unpaid debts with any Housing Agency, you may not be eligible to receive housing assistance.

It is the policy of the Vallejo Housing Authority to provide reasonable accommodation to persons with disabilities, so that they may fully access and utilize the housing program and related services. Requests for reasonable accommodation must be made **in writing**. The Housing Authority must be allowed reasonable time to evaluate all requests.

The hearing impaired may call the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2922 without TTY/TDD or (800) 735-2929 with TTY/TDD. Please contact Melinda Nestlerode, Section 504 coordinator and HCD Manager, at 707/648-4507 for further information.

Our Mission

The Housing Authority of the City of Vallejo is dedicated to providing safe, decent and quality affordable rental housing to eligible persons with limited incomes, through a variety of federal, state, local and private resources. Our goal is to provide this housing within an environment that fosters the advancement of low income families from a position of dependency to one of self sufficiency.

A Call to Action

Today, Vallejo Housing Authority helps provide a home to **more than 2,100** families through our rental subsidy and voucher programs. We have approximately **9,700** households needing assistance on our various waiting lists. This is because there are many more families eligible than can be assisted with the money the government provides. The gap between the cost of housing and what families can afford to pay remains one of the most serious challenges we face as a community and as a nation.

What YOU can do

Whether you are an applicant on our waiting lists, a participant in our housing programs or just a member of the community, Vallejo Housing Authority needs your help during this housing crisis. Change takes place at the legislative level. **Now, more than ever, we encourage you to contact The White House and your local legislative representatives to keep them aware of the problem and the need.**

Congressman George Miller

7th District of California

375 G Street, Ste #1

Vallejo, Ca 94592

Phone: 707-645-1888

Fax: 707-645-1870

Email address <http://georgemiller.house.gov/>

(Will forward your correspondence to The White House on your behalf)

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer

312 N. Spring St., Ste. 1748 - Los Angeles, CA 90012

213-894-5000

<http://boxer.senate.gov/>

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein

11111 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 915

Los Angeles, CA 90025

310-914-7300

<http://feinstein.senate.gov/>