

2020 Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Waiting List & Lottery

We hope that these FAQs answer any questions you may have about applying for the Housing Authority of Snohomish County's (Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Waitlist Lottery). If we do not answer your questions here, please leave a message with the Waitlist Department by calling 425-290-8499 ext. 536, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

The Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Waitlist Lottery

When is the Waitlist Lottery open?

The Housing Choice Voucher Lottery will be open for applications from 8:00 am Monday, June 1st, 2020 through 4:00 pm Thursday, June 11th, 2020.

How many applications will be accepted?

All eligible applications submitted between the dates and times noted above will be accepted into the lottery (limited to one application per household). From the eligible applications received, HASCO will randomly select 300 qualified applicants to be placed on the waiting list.

If I fill out the application, will I receive a Housing Choice Voucher?

Filling out the application does not guarantee that you will receive a voucher. Your application puts you in a group of applicants from which we will randomly select 300 households who will be placed on the voucher waitlist. In addition, to receive a voucher, your household will need to be determined eligible for our program. See eligibility below for more information.

When will I find out if I've been placed on the waitlist?

All applicants will receive a letter in the mail stating if you were selected to be placed on the waitlist or not.

How do I tell the Housing Authority of Snohomish County (HASCO) if my contact information has changed after I submit my application?

The most important contact information for your application is your mailing address. If your mailing address changes during the application period, you can update HASCO by calling and leaving a message with the Waitlist Department at 425-290-8499 ext. 536, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you are placed on the waitlist, you will receive further instructions on how to update your information online in the future.

Applying for the Housing Choice Voucher Waitlist Lottery

How do I apply for the Section 8 Waitlist Lottery?

Once the application period is open, you can apply at hasco.myhousing.com. This application is online-only. There are no paper applications.

Does it cost anything to apply?

No. The application is free and can be reached hasco.myhousing.com.

What information do I need to apply for the lottery?

For the application, you will need the following information:

- Each Household Member's full name, date of birth, relationship to you, sex, race/ethnicity, veteran status, and disability status.
- Monthly income information for the entire household. (Including TANF, GAU, SSI, SS, Child Support, Wages, etc.)
- Contact information, including a phone number, email address, and mailing address.

Do I need a Social Security Number to apply?

If you are the Head of Household, or person applying, and have a Social Security Number (SSN) or Alien Registration Number (Alternate ID), you will need this information when applying. The application will ask for your SSN and/or your Alternate ID if applicable, but these are not required fields in order to continue with the application. If you have any further questions, please contact the Waitlist Department by **Monday, June 8th, 2020**. Social Security Numbers are not required for additional Household Members at time of application.

Please note, in order to be eligible for the program, when drawn from the waitlist, you will need either a Social Security Number (SSN) or Alien Registration Number (Alternate ID). Though this information is not required at time of application, you will be found ineligible for the program if you cannot provide either of these pieces of information when your name reaches the top of the waiting list.

Do I need an email address to apply?

Yes. An email address is required to apply, so that you can receive confirmation of your application being submitted. If you do not have an email address, there are many options for creating a free email account including: [Gmail](https://gmail.com), [Outlook](https://outlook.com) and [Yahoo](https://yahoo.com).

Do I need a physical address to apply?

No. You do not need a physical address to apply. However, we do require a valid mailing address, which includes general delivery.

How do I know if I submitted my application successfully?

If your application has successfully been submitted, a confirmation number will appear at the end of your application. Additionally, you will receive an email with your confirmation number for the application included.

Does my application date/time affect my chances of being selected for the waitlist?

No. Applicants for this program will be randomly selected.

Help Applying

How do I contact HASCO if I need help with the application?

If you need help with your application, please leave a message with the Waitlist Department by calling 425-290-8499 ext. 536, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you need assistance with submitting an online application, please leave a message with the Waitlist Department no later than **Monday, June 8th, 2020** to make sure they have enough time to return your call.

Also, throughout the online application, you will see “Need Help” icons listed on the bottom of each page. These buttons give additional information for filling out the application, including definitions and clarifications on what type of information we need.

Will the application be available in languages other than English?

The online application is only available in English. If you need assistance in completing the application in a language other than English, please call the Waitlist Department at 425-290-8499 ext. 536 and leave a message with your name, preferred language, and phone number. We can set up a phone meeting free of charge with you and a translator to complete the application together.

Housing Choice Voucher Eligibility

Am I eligible for Section 8?

For this targeted Section 8 program, the household must meet the following criteria:

1. There must be a non-elderly (**aged 18-61 years old**) disabled adult in the household. This can be any family member in the household, it does not need to be the person applying.

2. The non-elderly disabled adult (aged 18-61 years old) on your application must currently be living in one of these situations:
 - Transitioning out of an institution or other segregated setting
 - At serious risk of institutionalization
 - Homeless
 - At risk of becoming homeless
 - Participating in permanent supportive housing in Snohomish County

3. Your household must be considered **low-income**. “Low-income” means your annual gross income (income received before any taxes or withholdings are taken out) **is at or below the amount in the table below**.

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
1 person	\$41,800
2 people	\$47,800
3 people	\$53,750
4 people	\$59,700
5 people	\$64,500
6 people	\$69,300
7 people	\$74,050
8+ people	\$78,850

Who is an eligible non-citizen?

To get a Section 8 Voucher, at least **one** member of your household must be a U.S. Citizen or an eligible non-citizen. An eligible non-citizen has either:

- Permanent resident status (green card holder)
- Temporary resident status (does not include student visas)
- Been granted refugee or asylum status by the Department of Homeland Security
- Been granted conditional entry before April 1, 1980
- Been lawfully present due to an exercise of discretion by the Attorney General for emergent reasons or reasons deemed strictly in the public interest
- Been lawfully present due to the Attorney General withholding deportation due to a threat to life or freedom

How would getting a Section 8 Voucher affect me under the proposed Public Charge rule?

On August 14, 2019, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published its final rule entitled "Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds" (the "Public Charge Rule"). While it does not change HUD assistance programs or directly impact HASCO's admissions and occupancy, we understand that the Public Charge Rule is directed at non-citizens seeking adjustments to their visa or residency status and includes receipt of Section 8 Housing Assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher Program, Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance, and Public Housing in its public benefits evaluation. HASCO cannot provide advice as to whether the Public Charge Rule or your application for or current receipt of housing assistance will impact your current or future immigration status. Any such questions should be addressed to Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, nwirp.org or 800-445-5771.

What is the definition of a person with a disability?

You are considered to be disabled if you have a long-term or permanent physical or mental impairment that makes it difficult for you to do things like:

- Care for yourself
- Perform manual tasks
- See or hear
- Eat
- Move
- Communicate
- Breathe
- Work

If you are on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), you are considered disabled for the purpose of Housing Choice Vouchers. Alternative methods of verifying disability are available for those who do not receive SSI or SSDI, such as through your Medical Provider. **This documentation will be verified when you reach the top of the waitlist and is not needed at time of application.**

I live in transitional housing. Can I apply?

Yes. Since transitional housing is considered a time-limited program (there is a set date your family must move out of the unit), your family is not considered "permanently housed" and therefore is eligible for a voucher.

I live in Low-Income Public Housing or am already on a voucher program. Can I apply to be on the waitlist?

If you are housed on a program with a Section 8 voucher, you will not be prevented or cut off from applying; however, when you are pulled from the waiting list you will be found **ineligible** for the program. If you have any questions regarding program eligibility, please contact our Waitlist Department at 425-290-8499 ext. 536.

Do I have to live in Snohomish County to be eligible to apply?

No. Applicants do not have to live in Snohomish County to apply for the lottery. You can live anywhere in the world to apply. Please note however, that if you receive a Housing Choice voucher through HASCO, you **must live in Snohomish County for the first year of program participation.**

Are there other housing options available?

For additional housing resources, please call 2-1-1, North Sound Community Information and Referral line or you can access their website at wa211.org. They will be able to provide the most information regarding available housing programs in the area.

You can also follow [this link](#) to access Snohomish County's coordinated entry services, which assist those who are homeless or facing homelessness in Snohomish County.

Here is a list of other nearby Housing Authorities:

- [Seattle Housing Authority](#)
- [Everett Housing Authority](#)
- [Skagit County Housing Authority](#)
- [King County Housing Authority](#)