

## Housing Subsidies and Benefit Programs in NYC

A wide range of programs are available to New York City residents who need assistance with their housing payments. These programs are administered by various government agencies, and are designed to help renters in various different circumstances. Landlords, real estate agents, and other housing providers are prohibited from discriminating against you for using a voucher or subsidy to pay your rent. For more information see our fact sheet *What is Source of Income Discrimination?*

- **Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV - also referred to as Section 8):** Provides assistance to eligible low- and moderate-income families to rent housing in the private market. The program is federally funded by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and administered locally by different agencies. To find your local program administrator, please visit [hcr.ny.gov/section-8-housing-choice-voucher-hcv-program](https://hcr.ny.gov/section-8-housing-choice-voucher-hcv-program).

The Department of Social Services (DSS), which includes both the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) and the Human Resources Administration (HRA), can help you connect to other rental assistance programs. (For help with heating, cooling, and energy costs visit [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/energy-assistance.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/energy-assistance.page).)

### Rental Vouchers

- **Family Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement (FHEPS):** Rental assistance for families with children who receive Cash Assistance and have been evicted or are facing eviction, who lost their housing due to a domestic violence situation, or who have lost their housing because of health or safety issues. FHEPS can be used to remain in your home, to move within NYC, or to move out of shelter if you have already lost your home. [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/fheps.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/fheps.page)
- **CityFHEPS:** Similar to FHEPS, but for individuals as well as families. Recipients can use CityFHEPS to rent an entire apartment, a single room in an apartment, or a single room occupancy (SRO) unit within the five boroughs of NYC. [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/cityfheps.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/cityfheps.page)
- **HIV/AIDS Service Administration (HASA):** Wide-ranging support, including rental assistance, to help individuals with HIV or AIDS who meet financial requirements to live healthier, more independent lives. Applicants are typically referred by medical and service organizations. [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/hasa-faqs.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/hasa-faqs.page)

### Short-Term Assistance

- **Special One-Time Assistance (SOTA):** A one year rental assistance program for eligible DHS clients who meet certain income and rent requirements. Recipients can use SOTA to move within NYC, to other New York State counties, or to another state, Puerto Rico, or Washington, D.C. [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/sota.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/sota.page)
- **One Shot Deal:** An emergency assistance program to help people who can't meet a rent expense due to an unexpected situation or event. [access.nyc.gov/programs/one-shot-deal/](https://access.nyc.gov/programs/one-shot-deal/)

### Rent Freezes

- **Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE):** Freezes rent at current level for tenants 62 and older in rent-regulated apartments who meet income and rent requirements. Future rent increases are paid for by applying credits to the landlord's property tax bill. [access.nyc.gov/programs/senior-citizens-rent-increase-exemption-scrie/](https://access.nyc.gov/programs/senior-citizens-rent-increase-exemption-scrie/)
- **Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE):** Similar to SCRIE, but for rent-regulated tenants of any age with disabilities. [access.nyc.gov/programs/disability-rent-increase-exemption-drie/](https://access.nyc.gov/programs/disability-rent-increase-exemption-drie/)

### Where can I learn more?

If you think you are experiencing any form of housing discrimination, contact the FHJC. We will help sort out the facts and provide you with information about your rights and options under fair housing laws. You can also contact us – anonymously if you prefer – if you know about housing discrimination that is happening to others. Our counseling and investigative services are provided for free, regardless of income.