# RENTAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

What you need to know about the Housing Choice Voucher Program



www.idahohousing.com





# WHAT IS HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER RENTAL ASSISTANCE?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance program helps eligible households rent safe, sanitary, and affordable housing by paying some or all of their rental costs, depending on household income.

## **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

Through four branch offices, Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA) administers the Housing Choice Voucher program in 34 of the 44 counties in Idaho.

Those seeking Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance must fill out and submit an application to IHFA. When an application is received you are placed on the waiting list.

The preference for which you qualify, the date of your application, and rental assistance availability all determine how quickly you will receive assistance.

Once your name comes to the top of the waiting list, you will be contacted by a branch office to complete the process.

## **HOW LONG IS THE WAITING LIST?**

Because of the high demand, the time spent on the waiting list can vary from several months to more than two years.

# AM I ELIGIBLE FOR HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER RENTAL ASSISTANCE?

You are considered eligible for the program if you fall within the HUD income guidelines and you meet other eligibility requirements.

You may not be considered eligible if you:

- Owe money to IHFA or any other housing authority.
- Have ever committed fraud while participating in a federal housing program.
- Have ever been evicted from public housing.
- Have committed drug-related or violent criminal acts or are a registered sex offender.
- Are determined to be ineligible due to other reasons as defined by HUD.

# WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PARTICIPANT?

In order to remain in the program, you must:

- Pay your share of the rent on time.
- Pay your utilities (if any).
- Not damage the property.
- Notify the IHFA Branch Office and landlord if you wish to move to another unit.
- Not commit any serious or repeated lease violations.
- Permit IHFA to conduct inspections to ensure the property is in good condition.
- Immediately report any changes in your household members and income.
- Attend meetings and complete and submit paperwork as required.
- Abide by program rules and regulations.

#### WHERE CAN I LIVE?

Almost any kind of safe, decent and sanitary housing qualifies, including a single-family home, townhouse, duplex, apartment, or manufactured home.

For help in your search for a unit, visit housingidaho.com.

# ARE THERE RENTAL UNIT REQUIREMENTS?

As a participant, you are able to choose your own housing as long as it meets program requirements.

To be accepted in the program, units must:

- · Have adequate living space.
- Have adequate heating, electrical, water, and sewer systems.
- Be free from any conditions that might endanger your health and safety.
- Pass the HUD housing inspection protocol.
- Have a rent that is reasonable when compared to similar unassisted units.

# **HOW DO I APPLY?**

You can create an account and apply online or fill out a paper application.\*

idahohousing.com/hcv/apply



\*If you prefer a paper application, it and a supplemental form must be printed, completed and signed in ink, then mailed or hand delivered to the appropriate branch office.

### **NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

Follow the rental assistance links at *idahohousing.com* or contact a branch office near you:

# Coeur d'Alene Branch

915 W. Canfield Avenue Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815 208.762.5113 • 866.621.2994

#### **Idaho Falls Branch**

1235 Jones St. Idaho Falls, ID 83401 208.522.6002 • 866.684.3756

## **Lewiston Branch**

2338 Nez Perce Drive Lewiston, ID 83501 208.743.0251 • 866.566.1727

# Twin Falls Branch

841 Meadows Drive, Suite 100 Twin Falls, ID 83301 208.734.8531 • 866.234.3435

### Or You May Contact:

Rental Assistance Main Office P.O. Box 7899 (565 W. Myrtle St.) Boise, ID 83707-1899 855.505.4700

Information in this brochure will be provided, upon request, in a manner which is usable for sight impaired, hearing impaired, and mobility impaired persons. Those requiring special accommodation to participate may call IHFA at 855.505.4700 for assistance.

The Housing Choice Voucher program and IHFA operate under the federal Fair Housing Law (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968) and other federal and state housing laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, familial status, disability, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status..



Idaho Housing and Finance Association improves lives and strengthens Idaho communities by expanding housing opportunities, building selfsufficiency, and fostering economic development. Idaho Housing is self-supporting and generates its revenue.

For complete program descriptions, visit idahohousing.com.

#### **Housing Choice Voucher** Rental Assistance Program

P.O. Box 7899 • (565 W. Myrtle) Boise. Idaho 83707-1899

855.505.4700















