# HCV Seminar For New Landlords

Mastering the HCV Program for Owners

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## **Key Points**

- HCV Program Policies and Procedures
- Electronic Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA)
- Owner Resources and Tips
- Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Inspections

### **Committed To**

- Cultivating relationships with our partners
- Streamlining program operations to maximize efficiency
- Improving customer service
- Attracting new landlords for program participation







### **The Need in San Antonio**

### 1 in 15

San Antonians are on an Opportunity Home waiting list.

97,000

households as of Oct. 1, 2023.

The number has continued to grow since the beginning of the pandemic.

### **Who We Serve**

Public Housing and Voucher Programs serve over **42,000 individuals**.

17k households

94%

with one head of household

\$11k Median income 46%

with children

52%

with fixed income

(SS, SSI, Pension)

2.5

household size

32%

with earned income

(Wages)



### **HCV Program Owner Benefits**

### **5 Reasons You Should Be Renting To HCV Participants:**

- 1. Consistent and reliable rent payments
- 2. Free access to a large amount of potential tenants
- 3. Pre-Screened Tenants
- 4. Streamlined Processes
- 5. Economic Development in your Community



## What is the HCV Program?

### **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program**

- is a federally-funded rental assistance program for low-income families
- supplements rental payments for low-income participants
- provides participants the opportunity to find and lease a safe, decent, and sanitary home that they may not otherwise be able to afford on their own





# Voucher Programs

#### **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program**

Vouchers for general public, no preferences

#### **Special Programs**

- Referral system
- Partnerships with Veterans Affairs (VA),
   Haven for Hope, Center for Health Care
   Services (CHCS), Close to Home, etc.

## The HCV Program Is

### A Three-Way Partnership

- Opportunity Home provides a family in need with housing assistance
- The assisted family and a unit owner enter into a lease agreement establishing each party's responsibilities
- Opportunity Home enters into a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)
  Contract with the unit owner specifying each party's obligations





### Landlord

- Provides safe, decent, sanitary housing to the tenant at a reasonable rate
- Screens participant as one would normally expect
- Provides the requested documentation to PHA and make unit available for inspection
- Enforces the rules and regulations of the Lease Agreement
- Responsible for maintaining the unit as specified in the lease agreement.

### **Tenant**

- Finds a suitable housing unit
- Complies with HCV program rules, regulations, and family obligations
- Reports changes in income and household composition
- Pays rent and any family-supplied utilities on time
- Keeps the unit in good, safe, decent and sanitary condition to ensure the unit meets HQS



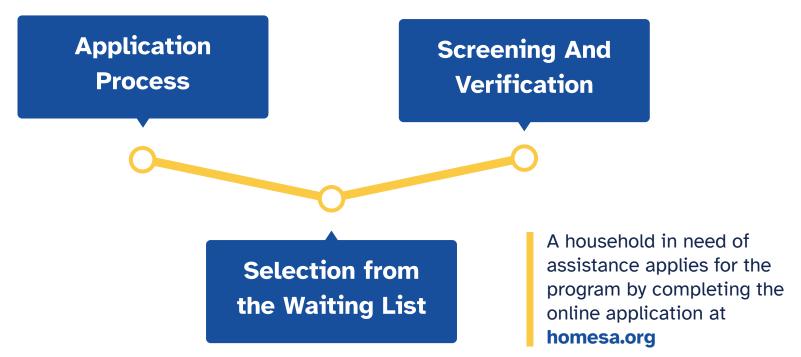




# **Public Housing Authority**

- Verifies initial eligibility
- Recertifies participants
- Conducts unit inspections
- Ensures Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) are processed
- Ensures compliance with program policies

### **How Rental Assistance Works**





### **How Rental Assistance Works**

(Cont'd)

Housing Search

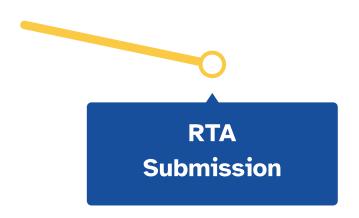
Voucher Issuance

When a household reaches the top of the Waitlist, **Opportunity Home verifies**:

- Income Eligibility
- Criminal History
- Citizenship Status
- Bad Debt to other Public Housing Agencies (PHAs)



# How Rental Assistance Works (Cont'd)



### Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA) Submission

- The household has **120 days** to find a private rental unit
- Once a unit is located and the owner agrees to participate in the program, the landlord submits an **Electronic Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA)**
- An inspection is generated once the RTA is approved



# How Rental Assistance Works (Cont'd)

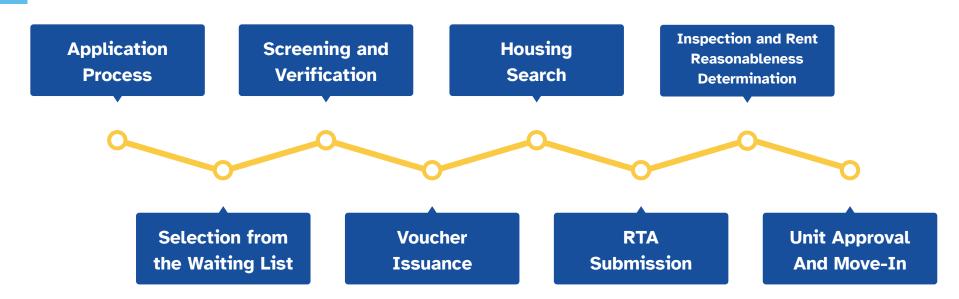
Inspection and Rent Reasonableness Determination

Unit Approval And Move-In

- Opportunity Home inspects the unit according to Housing Quality Standards (HQS)
- The rent of the unit is compared to rents of similar, unassisted units in the area
- The Landlord will need to verify move-in date
- Lease and Contract signed



# **How Rental Assistance Works**The Big Picture





## **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)**

Family's copy (to be shown to Landlord)



#### Voucher Housing Choice Voucher Program

Diagon road entire document before completing form

#### U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing

OMB No. 2577-0169 (exp. 07/31/2022)

Public Reporting Burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.05 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control unitary. The information is used to solve the collection. This collection of information is unitary and or Section 8 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f). The information is used to authorize a family to look for an eligible unit and specifies the size of the unit. The information also sets forth the flamily's obligations under the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Privacy Act Statement. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is authorized to collect the information required on this form by Section 8 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f). Collection of family members' names is mandatory. The information is used to authorize a family to look for an eligible unit and specifies the size of the unit. The information also sets forth the family's obligations under the Housing Choice Voucher Program. HUD may disclose this information to Federal, State and local agencies when relevant to civil, criminal, or regulatory investigations and prosecutions. It will not be otherwise disclosed or released outside of HUD, except as permitted or required by law. Failure to provide any of the information may result in delay or rejection of family voucher issuance.

Fill in all blanks below. Type or print clearly.			
<ol> <li>Insert unit size in number of bedrooms. (This is the number of bedrooms for which the Family qualifies, and is used in determining the amount of assistance to be paid on behalf of the Family to the owner.)</li> <li>Date Voucher Issued (mmiddlyyyy) Insert actual date the Voucher is issued to the Family.</li> </ol>			
			ty days after date issued.
	Date Extension Expires (mm/dd/yyyy)		
Signature of Family Represent	tative Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)		
	*		
Signature of PHA     Official	Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)		
	on behalf of the Family to the owner.)  by days after date issued.  6. Signature of Family Represer  9. Signature of PHA		

#### 1. Housing Choice Voucher Program

- A. The public housing agency (PHA) has determined that the above named family (item 5) is eligible to participate in the housing choice voucher program. Under this program, the family chooses a decent, safe and sanitary unit to live in. If the owner agrees to lease the unit to the family under the housing choice voucher program, and if the PHA approves the unit, the PHA will enter into a housing assistance payments (HAP) contract with the owner to make monthly payments to the owner to help the family pay the rent.
- B. The PHA determines the amount of the monthly housing assistance payment to be paid to the owner. Generally, the monthly housing assistance payment by the PHA is the difference between the applicable payment standard and 30 percent of monthly adjusted family income. In determining the maximum initial housing assistance payment for the family, the PHA will use the payment standard in effect on the date the tenancy is approved by the PHA. The family may choose to rent a unit for more than the payment standard, but this choice does not change the amount of the PHA's assistance payment. The actual amount of the PHA's assistance payment will be determined using the gross rent for the unit selected by the family.

#### 2. Voucher

- A. When issuing this voucher the PHA expects that if the family finds an approvable unit, the PHA will have the money available to enter into a HAP contract with the owner. However, the PHA is under no obligation to the family, to any owner, or to any other person, to approve a tenancy. The PHA does not have any liability to any party by the issuance of this voucher.
- B. The voucher does not give the family any right to participate in the PHA's housing choice voucher program. The family becomes a participant in the PHA's housing choice voucher program when the HAP contract between the PHA and the owner takes effect.
- C. During the initial or any extended term of this voucher, the PHA may require the family to report progress in leasing a unit at such intervals and times as determined by the PHA.

## **Housing Choice Voucher**

#### 1. Unit Size

■ Unit Size indicates the # of bedrooms a resident qualifies for

#### 2. Issue Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

■ The Issue Date (voucher effective date) is the actual month, day, and year the voucher was issued to the resident.

#### 3. Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

- Vouchers are active for a minimum of 120 days and expire on the expiration date.
- For residents that are moving, the voucher is active 30 days before and after their Lease expires.





HOH: Last 4 of SSN: Certification: Current Contract Expiration Date:

#### Contract Rent & Maximum Family Contribution Shopping Allowance (Rent Simplification)

Bedroom size: 1

Rent amounts shown on this document are not final, approved amounts. Rent must be requested and determined to be reasonable through Opportunity Home's review process.

**Client Initials** 

	Column A	Column B	Column C
Maximum Rent to Owner:	Tenant Pays Utilities	Owner Pays All Utilities	Maximum Family Contribution:
Zip Code Group 1			
78073, 78207, 78208*, 78226	\$886	\$985	\$416
Zip Code Group 2			
78201, 78202*, 78203*, 78210, 78211, 78214, 78221, 78225, 78228, 78237, 78242	\$958	\$1,057	\$416
7in Cada Graun 2			



## Zip Code Group 1 vs Group 10

	Column A	Column B	Column C	_
Maximum Rent to Owner:	Tenant Pays Utilities	Owner Pays All Utilities	Maximum Family Contribution:	
Zip Code Group 1				
78073, 78207, 78208*, 78226	\$886	\$985	\$416	Subsidy
	1		-	allowance
vs.				increases as
		_		Zip Code
Zip Code Group 10	01.651	¢4.750	\$446	Group #
78023, 78215, 78260, 78261, 78266	\$1,651	\$1,750	\$416	increases

<sup>\*</sup>This is an example. Subsidy amounts will vary by each family's composition and income.



# Screening for Tenancy: Screening and Selecting a "Good Tenant"

- Decisions based on first impressions are a necessity
  - Screen for behavior and suitability
- Create written screening criteria to be used across the board for all tenants
  - Ensure tenant-screening complies with the Fair Housing Act
- Landlords should utilize specific tools for tenant selection
  - Credit, criminal, and eviction checks; current and previous landlord referrals
  - Determine minimum standards (i.e., minimum credit standard)



#### **Request for Tenancy Approval**

Housing Choice Voucher Program

#### U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Public and Indian Housing

OMB Approval No. 2577-0169 exp. 04/30/2026

When the participant selects a unit, the owner of the unit completes this form to provide the PHA with information about the unit. The information is used to determine if the unit is eligible for rental assistance.

1.Name of Public Housing Agency (PHA)			2. Address of Uni	t (street address, unit	#, city, state, zip code)
Opportunity Home Sar	n Antonio				
3.Requested Lease Start Date	4. Number of Bedrooms	5.Year Constructed	6. Proposed Rent	7. Security Deposit Amt	8. Date Unit Available for Inspection
9.Structure Type			10. If this unit is	s subsidized, indicate	e type of subsidy:
Single Family Detached (one family under one roof)			Section 202	2 Section 221	(d)(3)(BMIR)
Semi-Detached (duplex, attached on one side)			☐ Tax Credit	П номе	
Rowhouse/Townhouse (attached on two sides)		☐ Section 236	3 (insured or uninsur	red)	

Owner/Ma	nage	er Information (Please Print)			
Owner Name/Apartment Name					Date
Managing C	omp	any			
Manager Name Payee					
Assisted Ur	it A	ddress			
City	State	Zip			
Email Addre	ess f	or Authorized Signer of HAP Contract			
Owner Obl	igat	ions			
Owner's Initials					whatsoever.
Owner's Initials	2.	<b>Proof of Ownership</b> a. I understand that I must provide Opp		·	
Tillriars		a. I dideistand that I must provide Opp	or turnty ric	one with a copy of t	ne pevai Abbiaisar





#### **Lead-Based Paint Disclosure**

IMPORTANT: Landlords Must Complete This Form For Properties Built Before 1978

#### Lead-Based Paint Warning Statement

Housing units built before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose health hazards if not managed properly. Lead exposure is especially harmful to young children and pregnant women. Before renting pre-1978 housing, Lessor must disclose the presence of known lead-based paint and/or lead hazards in the dwelling. Lessees must also receive a federally approved pamphlet on lead poisoning prevention.

#### Lessor's Disclosure

sence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (Check One)	
Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the housing unit (explain):	
Lessor has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing unit.	
ords and reports available to the Lessor (Check One)	
Lessor has provided the Lessee with all available records and reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/o lead-based paint hazards in the housing unit. List documents:	r
Lessor has no reports or records related to lead-based and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing unit	ts.



#### OWNER

#### Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

#### Request for Taxpayer **Identification Number and Certification**

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not feave this	is line blank.
2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered of following seven boxes.  Individual/sole proprietor or Corporation Scorporation Parts single-member LLC  Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C-Corporation, S-S-Corporation  Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner for LLS cleared tax purposes another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for LLS cleared tax purposes to disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification.  Other (see instructions) Parts of the control of the contro	certain entitles, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):  n, PaPartnership)
5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.	Requester's name and address (optional)
6 City, state, and ZIP code	
7 List account number(s) here (optional)	
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)	
your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on I	line 1 to avoid Social security number

backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see How to get a

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see What Name and Number To Give the Requester for guidelines on whose number to enter.

ocial s	ecurity numb	er	_
	-	-	
molov	er identification	on number	

#### Certification

Under penalties of periury, I certify that:

- 1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpaver identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- 2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- 4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later,

Signature of U.S. person ▶

#### **General Instructions**

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

#### Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information

- . Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual
- . Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross
- . Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- . Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- . Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- . Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- . Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- . Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property) Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

#### **HCV Landlord Seminar**

## W-9 Form For **Owner And Payee**

- Owner W-9 form
- Payee W-9 form (if Payee differs from owner)
- Verification of Tax ID Number
  - Social Security Number
  - (SS card)
  - **Employer Identification Number (EIN** confirmation letter from the IRS)

Please note: W-9 form must correctly reflect the information on the SS card or EIN letter.

### Property Management Required Documents

#### If operating with a property manager:

- Owner Certification Form
- Management Agreement

Opportunity Home will accept property management forms from the San Antonio Board of Realtors (SABOR), Texas Real Estate Commission (TREC) or a member of the Texas Association of Realtors (TAR); or an affidavit, statement or power of attorney specifying the designee(s), signed by the owner.



# **Securing** of Forms

For security and privacy reasons, W-9 Form, Tax ID verification and direct deposit forms can be emailed to **Landlords@homesa.org** or faxed to **210.477.6786** with the applicant/participant name and unit address

The W-9 and direct deposit forms must be received within **two business days** from the date the Owner paperwork is submitted to Opportunity Home



## Residential Lease Requirements

#### Lease will have to reflect requirements set by Opportunity Home:

- Provide one (1) copy of your lease agreement to Opportunity Home
  - List all occupants residing in the household
  - Specify who will provide the stove & refrigerator
  - Specify utility responsibility
- Attach HUD's Tenancy Addendum to the lease
- Both parties are required to abide by the terms of the lease

Please note: Lease documents with white out or marked through are not permitted.



## Residential Lease Agreement

#### Landlords will want to ask themselves:

- Does my lease cover all the issues important to me and my tenants?
- Am I prepared to stand behind my lease terms?

#### Opportunity Home determines the effective date and writes it on the Lease and HAP Contract

The initial lease is for a minimum of one year

#### The effective date may start the latest of:

- on the date the family took possession of the unit
- the date it passes inspection or,
- the following day after the lease expired at their previously assisted unit

Friendly reminder! The landlord, not Opportunity Home, is responsible for enforcing the lease



### **Lease Dates Examples**

#### Example A

■ Family moved in: 4/2/2023

■ Unit passed our inspection: 4/5/2023

Previous unit lease expires: 3/31/2023

■ Effective date will be: 4/5/2023

#### Therefore...

■ Initial Lease Term: 4/5/2023 - 4/30/2024

Renewal Date: 5/1/2024

#### Example B

■ Family moved in: 3/15/2023

■ Unit passed our inspection: 3/9/2023

Previous unit lease expires: 3/31/2023

■ Effective date will be: 4/1/2023

#### Therefore...

■ Family moved in: 3/15/2023

Unit passed our inspection: 3/9/2023

Previous unit lease expires: 3/31/2023

Effective date will be: 4/1/2023



### **Protect Yourself & Your Property**

#### What if a Landlord has problems with an assisted tenant?

- What would a Landlord do if they had problems with a market based Tenant?
  - Landlords must still enforce the lease agreement

#### **Keep Opportunity Home informed**

■ If issuing any notices of adverse action, send to Opportunity Home immediately (Lease Violation(s), Notice to Vacate, Judgment, Writ of Possession, etc.)



### **Protect Yourself & Your Property**

#### **Landlord/Tenant Law**

 Stay up to date as possible on Texas legislation that govern rental properties and issues related to landlord/tenant law

#### **Evictions**

- Tenant cannot be evicted without a court order
- Landlord must serve citation on Tenant, with court date
- Court process moves fast (can be as quick as 2 weeks)
- Tenant has the right to appeal (they must file within 5 days of hearing)



# **Most Common Mistakes**

- Not reporting move out or providing a copy of lease violations and/or judgment
- Changing Contract Rent and/or responsibility of utilities without following procedure

- Not reporting a Change of Ownership and/or Payee and assigning payment to a new owner without following procedure
- Requesting or receiving unauthorized payments
- Submitting incomplete forms marked through or edited with white out
- Not reporting changes in contact information for the Owner and/or Management Company



## Inspections

**HQS Inspections Training** 



## **HQS Inspections**

Housing Quality Standards (HQS) are HUD's quality standards for tenant-based programs.

- Units must meet the minimum HQS to qualify
- Units must be in "make ready" status during the initial/move-in inspection
- Units must have:
  - All utilities on
  - A working stove and refrigerator
  - No trash/debris on site
  - Working heating source



# Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Commonly Failed Items Inspection Checklist



#### Landlord HQS Commonly Failed Items Inspection Checklist

Please use the below checklist to ensure units pass HQS inspections conducted by Opportunity Home San Antonio. Please be advised that this is not an all-inclusive list of every possible failed item. Units must be in "make ready" status. "Make ready" status is defined as a unit that is ready for immediate move-in.

y" status.	"Make ready" status is defined as a unit that is ready for immediate move-in.
Gener	
	All utilities on and operating in a safe manner and present no danger to occupants; for example, no electric hazards, plumbing leaks, gas leaks, missing P-traps, etc.
	No trash/debris on site.
	Working heating equipment. Equipment must be able to maintain an interior temperature of 65 degrees or warmer.
	Working cooling system (if provided). System must be able to maintain an interior temperature of 80 degrees or cooler.
	No roof leaks; indications of a leak include discolorations or stains on the ceiling.
	The hot water heater tank must have a temperature pressure relief valve with downward discharge pipe.
	All conversions/additions must pass HQS inspection and be properly permitted by City or local agencies having jurisdiction over the unit. Opportunity Home San Antonio may request copies of approved permits o the LL can provide a BEXAR CAD card.
	All security/burglar bars must have a quick release mechanism (Must not need a key, tool or special knowledge to open).
	Double-keyed deadbolts, also known as double cylinder locks, are not allowed at any location.
Kitche	
	Working stove/refrigerator
	Clean stove/refrigerator
Space	and Security
	Windows must have a working, permanently attached locking device.
	Windows must be in good condition and able to remain open. Window pane(s) cannot be broken or cracked. Plexiglass is not an acceptable repair for glazed windows.
	Floor covering cannot be torn nor have holes/cracks that can cause a tripping/cutting hazard.
	Stairs and railings must be secure and handrails are required with four or more consecutive steps.
	A railing is required on unprotected heights (39 inches or higher above ground) such as around stairwells, balconies, walkways, etc.
	Smoke detectors are required in all bedrooms and adjacent hallways. If a hallway doesn't exist, then a smoke detector is required outside the bedroom.
	Carbon monoxide detection is required in dwelling units that contain a fuel burning appliance (ex: Gas stove/oven, water heater, space heaters) or fuel burning fireplace, as well as dwelling units with attached private garages.
Comn	non Areas
	All common areas will be inspected for safety hazards (Laundry room, pool area, etc.).
	There must not be any trip hazards such as gaps/cracks greater than 3/4 inch on sidewalk, walkways, driveways, common areas, etc.
Units	built pre-1978

### **Living Room and Bedroom**

- There must be at least one (1) operable window in the bedroom
- Windows must have working locks or a permanently attached locking device
- Windows must be in good working condition and able to remain open
- Plexiglass is not an acceptable repair for glazed windows
- Must have at least one (1) permanently installed light fixture and one (1) working outlet
  - If there is no light fixture, two (2) outlets are required
- Bedroom must be a minimum of 70 square feet
- A working smoke alarm must be installed in each bedroom

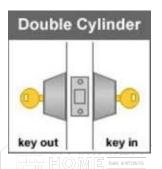












Double Cylinder Deadbolt Installation





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## **Living Room** and Bedroom

- Floor coverings must not:
  - Be torn
  - Have holes or cracks that can cause a tripping or cutting hazard
- Security / burglar bars must have a quick-release mechanism
  - Must not require key or special knowledge to open
- Double-key deadbolts, also known as double cylinder locks, are not allowed at any location

## Walls and Ceilings

#### Walls

Must be in good condition, sound and free from hazardous defects (No buckling or large holes).

### **Ceilings**

Must be sound and free from hazardous defects. (Conditions include large cracks, severe bulging, buckling, large holes falling or in danger of falling loose surface material.





### Kitchen

- There must be at least one light fixture and working electrical outlet
- There must be adequate space to prepare and store food
- There must be a working stove and refrigerator
- GFCI outlets are not required by HQS; however, if present, they must be properly wired
- All sinks must have a P-Trap and hot/cold running water

- Stove must be clean (to prevent a fire hazard) and in working order.
- Refrigerator must be sanitary and in working condition (no missing kick plates or torn door seals, etc.)









### **Building Interior**

Interior stairs and common halls must be free from safety hazards. The presence of safety hazards requires a **FAIL rating** and includes but not limited to:

- Loose, broken or missing steps
- Absent or insecure railings
- Ripped, torn or frayed stair coverings, such as carpets or mats
- Any missing sections of vertical railing



## **Living Room** and **Bedroom**

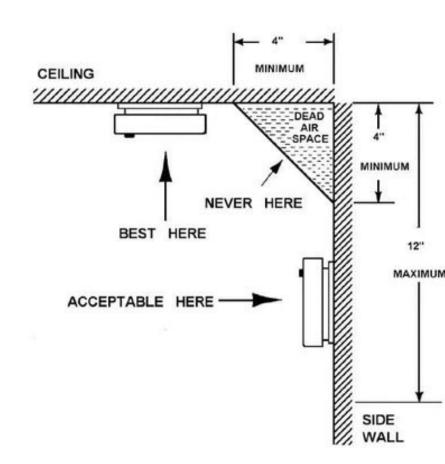
- Working smoke detectors are required in all bedrooms and adjacent hallways on each floor
- If no hallway is present, smoke detectors are required outside each bedroom





## **Living Room** and Bedroom

- See manufacturer's specifications for proper installation
- If installed on the ceiling, the smoke detector must at least be four inches from the wall
- If installed on the wall, the smoke detector must be at least four inches from the ceiling (and no more than 12 inches below ceiling)







# Carbon Monoxide Detection Requirements

Carbon monoxide detectors must be installed to manufacturer specifications.

- For units serviced by any fuel-fired appliance (gas, wood, oil), they must have CO detectors installed within "the immediate area" of sleeping areas.
- CO detectors must be installed in units with attached garage (with an opening into unit – door, etc.)
- CO detectors are also required inside any sleeping room if a fuel-fired appliance is installed directly in the bedroom.

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### **Bathroom**

- There must be at least one (1) light fixture
- There must be a tub or shower with hot/cold running water
- Sink must have P-Trap and cold/hot running water
- There must be at least one (1) source of ventilation:
  - Working Exhaust Fan
  - Vent
  - Window













- Missing/Inoperable Exhaust System
- Electrical Hazards
- Missing P-Trap
- Areas of black unknown substances







- Space heaters must be in good working condition no exposed wires posing a safety hazards.
- Gas wall heaters cannot have missing grills, or gas leaks.
- Central gas furnaces and gas water heaters must be vented to the outside.
- Water heaters must have:
  - a temperature-pressure relief valve and,
  - discharge line directed toward the floor or outside of the living area
- Hot water must be available at all times at a temperature between 95°F – 120°F

### **Heating and Plumbing**

- Unit must have adequate heat provided by landlord/owner.
- Heating system must be capable of maintaining an interior temperature of 65°F between
   November 1 –March 31
  - Allowed one (1) business day to meet the standard if not in compliance
- The AC system must be capable of maintaining an interior temperature of 80°F between April 1 October 31 (if unit is rented with AC system).
  - Allowed three (3) business day to meet the standard if not in compliance



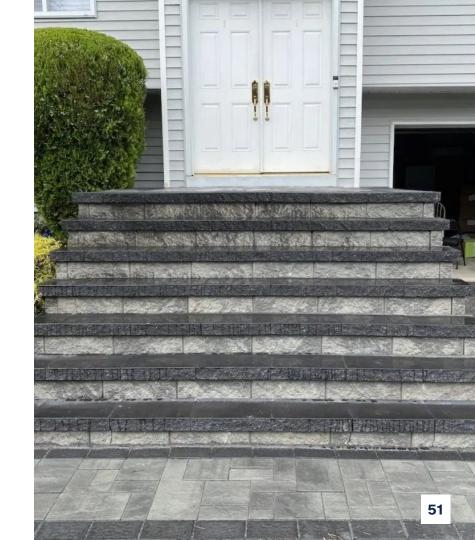


## **Exterior of Building**

- Exterior of the building must be in good condition (free of hazardous conditions)
- Common areas must also be free of hazardous conditions
- Stairs, rails and porches must be free of unsound and hazardous conditions

- Stairs and railings must be secured
- Handrails are required for stairs with 4or more consecutive steps
- Railings are required around stairwells,
   balconies and walkways that are 30
   inches or higher above the ground







- Units built before 1978 must not have any chipping or peeling paint inside or outside the unit.
- This also applies to:
  - Exterior of secondary buildings
  - Playgrounds
  - Railings
  - Common areas of the property
  - Units with families containing minors under the age of 6

- There must be no tripping hazards, such as gaps or cracks greater than ¾ inch, on sidewalks, walkways, driveways, common areas, etc.
- The roof must not have any leaks.
- Indications of a leak are discoloration or stains on the ceiling









- Common areas (i.e. swimming pools, play areas, laundry rooms, etc.) must be free of all safety/health hazards
- Swimming pools must be safe and sanitary at all times

- Units should be free of any infestations
- Property should be free of excessive trash accumulation











### Commonly Failed HQS Items

All conventions/Additions must pass HQS inspection and be properly permitted by City or Local agencies having jurisdiction over the unit. Opportunity Home San antonio may request copies of approved permits or the landlord can provide a BEXAR CAD card.

### **Life-Threatening Conditions**

If a unit has been found to contain life-threatening conditions, the inspector will give the landlord and tenant 24 hours to make the corrections required. As HUD requires, Opportunity Home defines life-threatening conditions to include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Lack of security for the unit
- No utilities (e.g., electric, gas, or water)
- Waterlogged ceiling in imminent danger of falling
- Major plumbing leaks, flooding or sewer backups

- Natural gas leak or fumes
- Nonfunctional heating equipment between November 1 and March 31
- Obstacle(s) preventing the tenant's exit from the unit
- Lack of at least one functional smoke detector on each floor



### **How Are Rents Determined?**

Opportunity Home will make rent offers based on a family's household composition, income, and area rent comparables

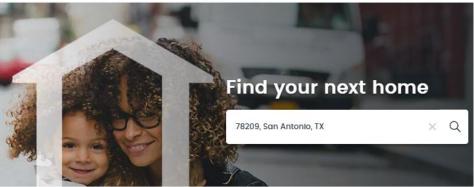
#### Comparability is established using the following:

- Location
- Quality
- Size
- Unit type
- Age

- Amenities
- Housing services
- Maintenance
- Utilities provided by the owner







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#### Get to know AffordableHousing.com





**HCV Landlord Seminar** 

## Marketing to Voucher Holders

### AffordableHousing.com

- Applicants and participants are referred to the website to easily access information on available units
- Filter searches on a MLS to include "accepting Section 8 Vouchers", "Section 8 approved", etc.

## Marketing to Voucher Holders

- Local newspapers
- "For Rent" signs
- Real estate companies
- Apartment locators





### **Landlord Corner Update**

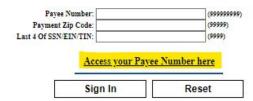
### Sign In

The Sign In link has been moved to the top right corner of the page.

Sign In

### Payee Number

Access your Payee Number on the Sign In page.



### **FAQs** Page

**NEW!** Frequently Asked Questions page.



#### Frequently Asked Questions

- How do I list my unit for participation with Opportunity Home San Antonio? Units can be listed on AffordableHousing.com free of charge. Families looking for a home are referred to this site.
- Who is the tenant's assigned caseworker?
   You can view a family's assigned Housing Assistance Specialist (HAS) by logging into the Landlord Corner and navigating to the Families page. HAS information can be found under the Commands section for each family.







#### Landlord Corner - Sign In





## **Landlord Resources**

#### **Landlord Corner**

Visit HomeSA.org/landlords, click "Visit the Corner"

■ Landlord Corner Instructions

#### Submit an RTA

Visit <u>HomeSA.org/rta</u>, click "Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA) Form"

Opportunity Home Website | HomeSA.org

Visit the **homesa.org/landlords** page to watch the **HQS: Tips for Passing an Inspection.** 





## We look forward to working with you and appreciate your continued support!











