

Section 8 Fact Sheet

The objective of Section 8 is to provide affordable, decent, and safe housing for eligible families, while increasing a family's residential mobility and choice. Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA), a state chartered public housing agency since 1938, now administers the second largest Section 8 Program in the country.

How it Works

The Section 8 program is financed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide rent subsidies to private landlords on behalf of extremely low, very low-income individuals/families, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities. An eligible family receives assistance by means of a voucher which is used to rent a unit. The unit the family chooses must meet the [Section 8 Housing Quality Standards](#) and the rent must be reasonable. The owner of the unit must agree to abide by HUD and HACLA regulations. Section 8 participants pay about 30% of their income towards their rent and HUD pays the rest of the rent to the owner.

Tenant-Based Subsidy vs. Project Based Subsidy

The Housing Authority has two different types of rental subsidies: tenant-based and project-based. Both subsidies have similar income-based admission requirements set by HUD. Households with a tenant-based subsidy are issued a Housing Choice Voucher that allows them to move from one place to another. Those in the project-based program live in a building in which the units are subsidized. If a tenant moves from the building, they lose their rental subsidy. To obtain a list of HUD Assisted Rental Housing which includes some Section 8 project-based properties, you may call HUD at (213) 894-8000.

In 2005, HACLA had about 44,000 tenant-based vouchers, and administered 3,100 other project-

based units in special programs. By 2012, the Section 8 program had grown to more than 47,500 vouchers, including 2,000 for homeless veterans, and more than 4,300 units in special programs.

Homeless Programs

HACLA is committed to housing homeless individuals and families through the [Homeless Program](#), [HUD-VASH](#) (veterans), [Permanent Supportive Housing Program](#), [Skid Families Demonstration Project](#), [Shelter Plus Care](#), and [Project 50](#) programs.

Shelter + Care

HACLA's [Shelter Plus Care](#) program provides supportive housing to more than 2,500 formerly homeless or chronically homeless individuals and families with mental health, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS conditions. Supportive services are extensive, with the sponsoring agencies required to provide a dollar for dollar match with the rental subsidy provided. Clients are assisted in both project and tenant based components of the program.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV

HACLA also administers the [Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS](#) program serving clients with HIV/AIDS.

Family Unification Program

Through this program HACLA helps pay the rent for families at risk of losing their children and youth transitioning out of the foster care system as referred by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services.

The Section 8 application process is closed until further notice.

(adapted from HACLA website: www.hacla.org which was Last Updated: December 17, 2012)