

EHV Program Updates: Search Period and Waitlist

Emergency
Housing Voucher
Program

- Effective September 1, 2022, all NYCHA and HPD EHV voucher holders will have a 300-day search term from the initial date of voucher issuance.¹
- NYCHA and HPD will no longer accept EHV referrals and applications after September 30, 2022, and each will maintain an EHV waitlist populated with the completed EHV applications on-hand.

Search Period

Due to the competitive rental market, as of September 1, 2022, NYCHA and HPD will give all EHV voucher holders a 300-day search period to secure an apartment, an increase from the original 120-day search period. This 300-day search period applies to all households with an EHV voucher. **NYCHA and HPD will not extend the voucher search time beyond 300 days** unless a reasonable accommodation request is received and approved to provide additional time to accommodate someone in the household with a disability. Reasonable accommodation requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

EHV voucher holders do not need to apply for this extension. NYCHA will issue the extended voucher, which will be available on the Self-Service Portal account. HPD will send the extension notice to all households.

Waitlist

Beginning October 1, 2022, NYCHA and HPD will no longer accept new referrals or applications. NYCHA and HPD will each maintain an EHV waitlist. Not everyone on the waitlist will get a voucher due to more households needing vouchers than are available. **NYCHA and HPD will continue to review and process existing applications.** Applicants should continue to submit any missing documents and respond to NYCHA and HPD's requests as quickly as possible. Only submitted applications in the NYCHA portal will be added to the waitlist.

Please remember that a referral is not an application: submitting a referral without submitting an application before October 1 is not sufficient. For more information on what constitutes a submitted application, please refer to the [EHV Provider Resources webpage](#). An application submitted in the NYCHA portal may still be incomplete for NYCHA and HPD final eligibility purposes. Applicants who are on the waitlist and later notified by NYCHA or HPD about an available EHV may still need to provide any final required documentation before NYCHA and HPD determine final eligibility and issue a voucher.

The federal government only provided New York City 7,788 EHV, which is far less than the local need. As vouchers become available, NYCHA and HPD will select applicants from their respective waitlists based on date and time of application submission.

¹ Applicants that reached 300 days (or more) as of September 1, 2022, will receive a final 60-day extension that may take them beyond 300 days.



Please visit nyc.gov/ehv for more information.

What Is Next for Clients

For clients who have been issued an EHV:

Clients who have been issued an EHV should make every effort to find a unit and lease-up with their voucher before it expires (300 days from issuance). Although Housing Navigators or Case Workers will assist, clients must be an active participant in their housing search.

For more information about the housing search, rental package, and lease up processes, please visit the [EHV Provider Resources webpage](#) or attend an upcoming EHV Office Hours. For additional housing search resources, see the [EHV Frequently Asked Questions](#) (question 13). Voucher holders are also welcome to attend [Housing Search Workshops](#) (held weekly on Mondays at 11:00am, Thursdays at 5:00pm, and Fridays at 3:00pm) to learn more about the housing search and leasing process.

For clients who have submitted an application but have NOT been issued an EHV:

Clients who have submitted an EHV application by September 30, 2022 but have NOT been issued an EHV will be placed on the EHV waitlist. Households on the waitlist may not get a voucher. Clients should be encouraged to pursue all viable housing options while waiting for EHV. Clients must ensure their applications are complete and continue to respond to the public housing agencies' requests for additional information.

If a client comes off the waitlist, the client will need to provide updated information on income or any changes in household composition. Clients should be prepared to provide additional information when requested by NYCHA or HPD.

For clients who have started but not yet submitted their application:

Clients who have started but not submitted their application through the NYCHA portal should submit their application by September 30, 2022. For an application to be complete, all the required documents must be submitted and all questions from NYCHA or HPD must be answered. For more information on what constitutes a submitted application, please refer to the [EHV Provider Resources webpage](#).

Once the application is submitted, these clients will be placed on the EHV waitlist. If you do not submit an application, your client will not be on the EHV waitlist. Clients should be encouraged to pursue all viable housing options while waiting for EHV.



FAQs

Are clients placed on the waitlist in the order that their EHV applications were received?

Yes.

How do clients get off the waitlist and get a voucher?

As vouchers become available, NYCHA and HPD will notify the next household on the waitlist. Clients will be called in the order of the date and time of their application. NYCHA and HPD will then determine eligibility.

If NYCHA and HPD will not accept EHV applications after September 30, 2022, is there a time when NYCHA and HPD would start accepting EHV applications again?

It is unlikely that NYCHA and HPD will be able to accept additional EHV applications after September 30, 2022.

How many EHV's are NYCHA and HPD issuing?

NYCHA and HPD plan to issue at least 10,000 vouchers (28% more than allotted vouchers). The reason public housing agencies "over-issue" is because not all voucher holders successfully lease. Voucher holders may not use their voucher before (or after) leasing up, they may not be able to find an apartment to rent before the voucher expires, or they may take their voucher and move to another area. For this reason, PHAs issue more vouchers than available so all vouchers are fully utilized. The City is carefully monitoring usage data to ensure that NYCHA and HPD do not issue too many vouchers.