

Frequently Asked Questions

Emergency Housing Voucher Transition to the Housing Choice Voucher Program

1. Why is my Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) being transitioned to a Tenant Based Voucher under the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced on March 6, 2025, that funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program will end in 2026. To ensure your rental assistance continues without interruption, NYCHA is transitioning your EHV to a Tenant Based Voucher under the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program.

2. How will NYCHA transition my Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) to a Tenant Based Voucher under the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program?

NYCHA has updated its [Section 8 Administrative Plan](#) to include an HCV waitlist preference for EHV voucher holders at risk of homelessness due to lack of funding for the EHV Program. This update allows NYCHA to add EHV Program participants to its HCV waitlist.

Once on the HCV waitlist, NYCHA will begin transitioning vouchers of EHV participants in order of the EHV Program admission date. NYCHA expects to transition EHV program participants to its HCV program by the end of 2026, ensuring rental assistance continues without interruption.

3. Do I need to do anything to get my voucher transitioned to the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program?

To transition to the HCV program, your annual recertification and Housing Quality Standards Inspection must be up to date. If it is, no further action is needed. NYCHA will manage the transition.

If you have an overdue annual recertification, please complete it as soon as possible. If you have an outstanding HQS Inspection, please contact the Customer Contact Center at (718) 707-7771, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00AM to 5:00PM, to schedule an inspection.

4. What's the difference between an Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) and a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)?

The main difference is that the EHV Program is a time-limited program. In 2021, Congress created the EHV program as a 10-year rental assistance program set to expire in 2030.

EHV and HCV have the same rules related to income calculation, tenant share, recertifications, inspections, and transfers.

5. How long am I eligible for HCV assistance?

You will continue receiving Section 8 assistance as long as you require rental assistance and you meet all program obligations. These obligations include recertifying annually,

permitting Housing Quality Standards (HQS) inspections, allowing your property owner to make any needed repairs, and meeting the terms of your lease.

6. Will I have to move because of this change?

No. You can remain in your current apartment.

7. Will my NYCHA case number change?

No. Your NYCHA case number will remain the same.

8. Will I still have access to the NYCHA Self-Service Portal?

Yes. You will still have access to the NYCHA Self-Service Portal. You can use the same username and password to log in.

9. Will this affect my rental assistance or rent payments?

No. Your rental assistance and your portion of the rent will not change due to this transition.

10. Will my annual recertification or inspection date change?

No. Your next annual recertification date and housing quality standards (HQS) inspection date will stay the same.

11. Can I be terminated from the Section 8 program?

Yes. If you violate your obligations under the Section 8 program, you can be terminated.

Reasons for termination from the program include, but are not limited to:

- Failing to complete the annual recertification;
- Failing to allow access to HQS inspectors for a unit inspection;
- Failing to give the owner of your Section 8 unit access to complete needed repairs;
- Allowing unauthorized people to live in the apartment; and
- Committing any serious or repeated violations of the lease.

12. What should my landlord know about this change?

NYCHA will notify participating landlords directly. There is no change in their participation requirements or the housing assistance payment (HAP) process. The main change is your voucher type is now classified under the HCV Program.

13. Can I still transfer, or request a transfer, to a new unit under the HCV Program?

Yes. Your transfer may continue without interruption if you are up to date with your annual recertification. If your annual recertification is overdue, please complete it as soon as possible.

14. Can I still use my voucher to move outside of the New York City Area (i.e., port-out)?

Yes. You can use your voucher to move to an area where another public housing authority administers a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program.

15. What happens if I do not want to transition my EHV to the HCV Program? How do I opt out?

Transitioning your EHV to the HCV Program will ensure your rental assistance continues without interruption. Opting out will mean that your rental subsidy will end on December 31, 2026; and you will be responsible for the full contract rent.

If you would like to opt out of transitioning to the HCV Program, please contact the Customer Contact Center at (718) 707-7771, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

16. Who can I contact if I have questions?

If you have additional questions after reviewing this FAQ, please contact NYCHA's Customer Contact Center at 718-707-7771 or visit our website at www.nyc.gov/nycha