

Mercer County Housing Authority INITIAL APPLICATION FORM



Have you ever resided in subsidized housing?

Yes No

Please list your current Landlord's name:

Landlord's Address:

Landlord's Phone Number:

Tenant's Name:

Street Address:

City, State, ZIP:

PHONE #:

Please list all the states where you, the applicant, and all household members have resided in:

Are you currently homeless?

Yes No

Please explain:

If you choose, yes I'm currently homeless, we need two forms of verifiable documentation received to qualify for preference.

Are you a Veteran?

Yes No

SUMMARY APPLICATION FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

(Include self first)

Family Member Number 1

Name	Relationship to Head of Household	Social Security #
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Date of Birth	Age	Sex	Race
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<input type="text"/>			
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Family Member Number 2

Name	Relationship to Head of Household	Social Security #	
Date of Birth	Age	Sex	Race
<input type="text"/>			

Family Member Number 3

Name	Relationship to Head of Household	Social Security #	
Date of Birth	Age	Sex	Race
<input type="text"/>			

Family Member Number 4

Name	Relationship to Head of Household	Social Security Number	
Date of Birth	Age	Sex	Race
<input type="text"/>			

Family Member Number 5

Name	Relationship to Head of Household	Social Security #	
Date of Birth	Age	Sex	Race

Family Member Number 6

Name	Relationship to Head of Household	Social Security #	
Date of Birth	Age	Sex	Race
<input type="text"/>			

1. Do you have a *checking or savings* account?

Yes No

Checking/Savings Name of Bank:

Branch Location:

2. Do you have any un-reimbursed childcare expenses?

Yes No

If head of household or spouse is 62 years or older

3. Do you have any un-reimbursed medical expenses?

Yes No

Total Amount

4. Are you, the applicant, or any of your household members subject to lifetime state sex offender registration program in any state?

Yes No

5. Are you currently living in subsidized housing?

Yes No

6. Have you ever participated in the Section 8/Housing Choice Voucher program?

Yes No

7. Are you a full time student?

Yes No

Please list name and address of school:

Social security cards and birth certificates are required for all persons listed, at the time of application. You have 14 days from the date of this application to provide them to MCHA.

Application will not be processed without all required documentation.

If you or anyone in your family is a person with disabilities, and you require a specific accommodation in order to fully utilize our programs and services, please contact the housing authority.

Income & Asset Information

Do you currently

Work full-time, part time seasonally?

Yes No

Expect to work for any period the next year?

Yes No

Work for someone who pays him or her in cash?

Yes No

Expect a leave of absence from work due to lay-off, medical, maternity, or military leave?

Yes No

Have an entitlement to receive child support?

Yes No

Receive income from assets including interest on checking or savings accounts?

Yes No

Own real estate or any other assets for which you receive no income?

Yes No

Sold or given away any property in the past two years?

Yes No

Do you now receive or expect or receive

Child support?

Yes No

Public Assistance?

Yes No

Social Security?

Yes No

Unemployment?

Yes No

Income from a pension or annuity?

Yes No

Regular contributions from organizations or from individuals not living in the unit?

Yes No

Expenses

Do you have expenses for childcare of a child aged 12 or younger?

Yes No

Name of Provider:

Phone Number:

Address:

Weekly out of pocket cost:

How many weeks a year:

Do you pay a care attendant or for any equipment for any household member(s) with disabilities necessary to permit that person or someone else to in the household to work?

Yes No

Cost of attendant and/or equipment:

Elderly/Disabled Families Only

Do you have Medicare?

Yes No

Monthly Premium:

Do you have any other kind of medical insurance?

Yes No

Monthly Premium:

Name of Agent:

Name of Provider:

Address:

Do you have any out of pocket medical expenses?

Yes No

(Please Explain)

Sources of Income
 (Please list all sources of income)

Types of Income

Social Security

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
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SSI

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
-----------------	----------------	--

Public Assistance

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
-----------------	----------------	--

Child Support

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
-----------------	----------------	--

County:

Case ID:

Pension

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
-----------------	----------------	--

Name & Address of Source

V.A. Benefits

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
-----------------	----------------	--

Name & Address of Source

Wages

Family Member #	Monthly Amount	
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Name & Address of Source

Other Sources of Income

Family Member #	Other Sources of Income	
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NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Mercer County Housing Authority does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, color,, national origin, age, disability of familial status. We provide equal access to persons with disabilities to our programs, services, and activities.

REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS

If you or a family member are disabled and require accessibility features or another reasonable accommodation please complete this section. If you do not have an accommodation, skip this section.

Do you have a reasonable accommodation?

Yes No

Please describe in detail any other accommodations that you require.

Mercer County Housing Authority Housing Choices

Please specify your housing choices. If you select, First Available, do not select any other options.

First Choice

Second Choice

Third Choice

Certification Statement

I certify that I have received/downloaded/printed a HUD flyer called "Things You Should Know" and the Federal Privacy Act Statement.

I certify that I have viewed online the notification of the VAWA brochure and EIV brochure.

I certify that the information provided to MCHA concerning household composition family income, and assets, allowable deductions and expenses are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Date

Your application for the lease of a dwelling unit is acknowledged as of today. The date of your acknowledgment of your application place you on the waiting list for public housing. This does not mean you are eligible for a unit. All income and background checks for criminal history and Landlord are done when your name comes to the top of the list.

HEARING AND VISION

Further assistance can be arranged for vision and hearing impaired person in completion of application, etc. Please contact your Section 504 Coordinator at (342-4004) to make arrangements prior to your interview.

All information on disability or handicap is confidential and is needed to determine statutory eligibility, determine placement in accessible unit or to provide assessment of need as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Supplement to Application for Federally Assisted Housing

Race and Ethnic Date Reporting Form

Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act

Supplemental and Optional Contact Information for HUD-Assisted Housing Applicants

SUPPLEMENT TO APPLICATION FOR FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING

This form is to be provided to each applicant for federally assisted housing

Instructions: Optional Contact Person or Organization: You have the right by law to include as part of your application for housing, the name, address, telephone number, and other relevant information of a family member, friend, or social, health, advocacy, or other organization. This contact information is for the purpose of identifying a person or organization that may be able to help in resolving any issues that may arise during your tenancy or to assist in providing any special care or services you may require. **You may update, remove, or change the information you provide on this form at any time.** You are not required to provide this contact information, but if you choose to do so, please include the relevant information on this form.

Applicant Name:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone No:	Cell Phone No:
Name of Additional Contact Person or Organization:	
Address:	
Telephone No:	Cell Phone No:
E-Mail Address (if applicable):	
Relationship to Applicant:	
Reason for Contact: (Check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/> Assist with Recertification Process
<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to contact you	<input type="checkbox"/> Change in lease terms
<input type="checkbox"/> Termination of rental assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Change in house rules
<input type="checkbox"/> Eviction from unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Late payment of rent	
Commitment of Housing Authority or Owner: If you are approved for housing, this information will be kept as part of your tenant file. If issues arise during your tenancy or if you require any services or special care, we may contact the person or organization you listed to assist in resolving the issues or in providing any services or special care to you.	
Confidentiality Statement: The information provided on this form is confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted by the applicant or applicable law.	
Legal Notification: Section 644 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-550, approved October 28, 1992) requires each applicant for federally assisted housing to be offered the option of providing information regarding an additional contact person or organization. By accepting the applicant's application, the housing provider agrees to comply with the non-discrimination and equal opportunity requirements of 24 CFR section 5.105, including the prohibitions on discrimination in admission to or participation in federally assisted housing programs on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status under the Fair Housing Act, and the prohibition on age discrimination under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.	

Check this box if you choose not to provide the contact information.

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Signature of Applicant

Date

The information collection requirements contained in this form were submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). The public reporting burden is estimated at 15 minutes 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. Section 644 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13604) imposed on HUD the obligation to require housing providers participating in HUD's assisted housing programs to provide any individual or family applying for occupancy in HUD-assisted housing with the option to include in the application for occupancy the name, address, telephone number, and other relevant information of a family member, friend, or person associated with a social, health, advocacy, or similar organization. The objective of providing such information is to facilitate contact by the housing provider with the person or organization identified by the tenant to assist in providing any delivery of services or special care to the tenant and assist with resolving any tenancy issues arising during the tenancy of such tenant. This supplemental application information is to be maintained by the housing provider and maintained as confidential information. Providing the information is basic to the operations of the HUD Assisted-Housing Program and is voluntary. It supports statutory requirements and program and management controls that prevent fraud, waste and mismanagement. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Privacy Statement: Public Law 102-550, authorizes the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to collect all the information (except the Social Security Number (SSN)) which will be used by HUD to protect disbursement data from fraudulent actions.

Race and Ethnic Data Reporting Form

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

OMB Approval No. 2502-0204
(Exp. 06/30/2017)

Name of Property Project No. Address of Property

Name of Owner/Managing Agent Type of Assistance or Program Title:

Name of Head of Household Name of Household Member

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Ethnic Categories*	Select One
Hispanic or Latino	
Not-Hispanic or Latino	
Racial Categories*	Select All that Apply
American Indian or Alaska Native	
Asian	
Black or African American	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	
Other	

*Definitions of these categories may be found on the reverse side.

There is no penalty for persons who do not complete the form.

Signature

Date

Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 10 minutes 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 information is required to obtain benefits and voluntary. HUD may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. This information is authorized by the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 as amended, the Housing and Urban Rural Recovery Act of 1983 and Housing and Community Development Technical Amendments of 1984. This information is needed to be in compliance with OMB-mandated changes to Ethnicity and Race categories for recording the 50059 Data Requirements to HUD. Owners/agents must offer the opportunity to the head and co-head of each household to "self certify" during the application interview or lease signing. In-place tenants must complete the form as part of their next interim or annual re-certification. This process will allow the owner/agent to collect the needed information on all members of the household. Completed documents should be stapled together for each household and placed in the household's file. Parents or guardians are to complete the self-certification for children under the age of 18. Once system development funds are provided and the appropriate system upgrades have been implemented, owners/agents will be required to report the race and ethnicity data electronically to the TRACS (Tenant Rental Assistance Certification System). This information is considered non-sensitive and does not require any special protection.

Instructions for the Race and Ethnic Data Reporting (Form HUD-27061-H)

A. General Instructions:

This form is to be completed by individuals wishing to be served (applicants) and those that are currently served (tenants) in housing assisted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Owner and agents are required to offer the applicant/tenant the option to complete the form. The form is to be completed at initial application or at lease signing. In-place tenants must also be offered the opportunity to complete the form as part of the next interim or annual recertification. Once the form is completed it need not be completed again unless the head of household or household composition changes. There is no penalty for persons who do not complete the form. However, the owner or agent may place a note in the tenant file stating the applicant/tenant refused to complete the form. **Parents or guardians are to complete the form for children under the age of 18.**

The Office of Housing has been given permission to use this form for gathering race and ethnic data in assisted housing programs. Completed documents for the entire household should be stapled together and placed in the household's file.

1. The two ethnic categories you should choose from are defined below. You should check one of the two categories.

1. **Hispanic or Latino.** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. The term "Spanish origin" can be used in addition to "Hispanic" or "Latino."
2. **Not Hispanic or Latino.** A person not of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

2. The five racial categories to choose from are defined below: You should check as many as apply to you.

1. **American Indian or Alaska Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
2. **Asian.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
3. **Black or African American.** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in addition to "Black" or "African American."
4. **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
5. **White.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East or North Africa.

MERCER COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act¹

To all Tenants and Applicants

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. VAWA protections are not only available to women, but are available equally to all individuals regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.² The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the Federal agency that oversees that **Housing Choice Voucher or Rental Assistance** is in compliance with VAWA. This notice explains your rights under VAWA. A HUD-approved certification form is attached to this notice. You can fill out this form to show that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that you wish to use your rights under VAWA.”

Protections for Applicants

If you otherwise qualify for assistance under **Housing Choice Voucher or Rental Assistance**, you cannot be denied admission or denied assistance because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Protections for Tenants

If you are receiving assistance under **Housing Choice Voucher or Rental Assistance**, you may not be denied assistance, terminated from participation, or be evicted from your rental housing

¹ Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

² Housing providers cannot discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing must be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Also, if you or an affiliated individual of yours is or has been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking by a member of your household or any guest, you may not be denied rental assistance or occupancy rights under **Housing Choice Voucher or Rental Assistance** solely on the basis of criminal activity directly relating to that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Affiliated individual means your spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child, or a person to whom you stand in the place of a parent or guardian (for example, the affiliated individual is in your care, custody, or control); or any individual, tenant, or lawful occupant living in your household.

Removing the Abuser or Perpetrator from the Household

HP may divide (bifurcate) your lease in order to evict the individual or terminate the assistance of the individual who has engaged in criminal activity (the abuser or perpetrator) directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

If HP chooses to remove the abuser or perpetrator, HP may not take away the rights of eligible tenants to the unit or otherwise punish the remaining tenants. If the evicted abuser or perpetrator was the sole tenant to have established eligibility for assistance under the program, HP must allow the tenant who is or has been a victim and other household members to remain in the unit for a period of time, in order to establish eligibility under the program or under another HUD housing program covered by VAWA, or, find alternative housing.

In removing the abuser or perpetrator from the household, HP must follow Federal, State, and local eviction procedures. In order to divide a lease, HP may, but is not required to, ask you for

documentation or certification of the incidences of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Moving to Another Unit

Upon your request, HP may permit you to move to another unit, subject to the availability of other units, and still keep your assistance. In order to approve a request, HP may ask you to provide documentation that you are requesting to move because of an incidence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If the request is a request for emergency transfer, the housing provider may ask you to submit a written request or fill out a form where you certify that you meet the criteria for an emergency transfer under VAWA. The criteria are:

- (1) You are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.** If your housing provider does not already have documentation that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, your housing provider may ask you for such documentation, as described in the documentation section below.
- (2) You expressly request the emergency transfer.** Your housing provider may choose to require that you submit a form, or may accept another written or oral request.
- (3) You reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your current unit.** This means you have a reason to fear that if you do not receive a transfer you would suffer violence in the very near future.

OR

You are a victim of sexual assault and the assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before you request a transfer. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then in addition to qualifying for an emergency transfer because you reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your unit, you may qualify for an emergency transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises of the property from which you are seeking your transfer, and that assault happened within the 90-calendar-day period before you expressly request the transfer.

HP will keep confidential requests for emergency transfers by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and the location of any move by such victims and their families.

HP's emergency transfer plan provides further information on emergency transfers, and HP must make a copy of its emergency transfer plan available to you if you ask to see it.

Documenting You Are or Have Been a Victim of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking

HP can, but is not required to, ask you to provide documentation to “certify” that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Such request from HP must be in writing, and HP must give you at least 14 business days (Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays do not count) from the day you receive the request to provide the documentation. HP may, but does not have to, extend the deadline for the submission of documentation upon your request.

You can provide one of the following to HP as documentation. It is your choice which of the following to submit if HP asks you to provide documentation that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

- A complete HUD-approved certification form given to you by HP with this notice, that documents an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The form will ask for your name, the date, time, and location of the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and a description of the incident. The certification form provides for including the name of the abuser or perpetrator if the name of the abuser or perpetrator is known and is safe to provide.
- A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency that documents the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Examples of such records include police reports, protective orders, and restraining orders, among others.
- A statement, which you must sign, along with the signature of an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, a medical professional or a mental health professional (collectively, “professional”) from whom you sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse, and with the professional selected by you attesting under penalty of perjury that he or she believes that the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are grounds for protection.
- Any other statement or evidence that HP has agreed to accept.

If you fail or refuse to provide one of these documents within the 14 business days, HP does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

If HP receives conflicting evidence that an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has been committed (such as certification forms from two or more members of a household each claiming to be a victim and naming one or more of the other petitioning household members as the abuser or perpetrator), HP has the right to request that you provide third-party documentation within thirty 30 calendar days in order to resolve the conflict. If you fail or refuse to provide third-party documentation where there is conflicting evidence, HP does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

Confidentiality

HP must keep confidential any information you provide related to the exercise of your rights under VAWA, including the fact that you are exercising your rights under VAWA.

HP must not allow any individual administering assistance or other services on behalf of HP (for example, employees and contractors) to have access to confidential information unless for reasons that specifically call for these individuals to have access to this information under applicable Federal, State, or local law.

HP must not enter your information into any shared database or disclose your information to any other entity or individual. HP, however, may disclose the information provided if:

- You give written permission to HP to release the information on a time limited basis.
- HP needs to use the information in an eviction or termination proceeding, such as to evict your abuser or perpetrator or terminate your abuser or perpetrator from assistance under this program.
- A law requires HP or your landlord to release the information.

VAWA does not limit HP's duty to honor court orders about access to or control of the property. This includes orders issued to protect a victim and orders dividing property among household members in cases where a family breaks up.

Reasons a Tenant Eligible for Occupancy Rights under VAWA May Be Evicted or Assistance May Be Terminated

You can be evicted and your assistance can be terminated for serious or repeated lease violations that are not related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking committed against you. However, HP cannot hold tenants who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to a more demanding set of rules than it applies to tenants who have not been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

The protections described in this notice might not apply, and you could be evicted and your assistance terminated, if HP can demonstrate that not evicting you or terminating your assistance would present a real physical danger that:

- 1) Would occur within an immediate time frame, and
- 2) Could result in death or serious bodily harm to other tenants or those who work on the property.

If HP can demonstrate the above, HP should only terminate your assistance or evict you if there are no other actions that could be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat.

Other Laws

VAWA does not replace any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. You may be entitled to

additional housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking under other Federal laws, as well as under State and local laws.

Non-Compliance with The Requirements of This Notice

You may report a covered housing provider's violations of these rights and seek additional assistance, if needed, by contacting or filing a complaint with

HUD William Mooread Federal Building

1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1000

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4004

Phone: (412)644-6428

For Additional Information

You may view a copy of HUD's final VAWA rule at www.federalregister.gov.

Additionally, HP must make a copy of HUD's VAWA regulations available to you if you ask to see them.

For questions regarding VAWA, please contact **Housing Choice Voucher department 724-342-4014 or Rental Assistance department 724-342-4010 contact information able to answer questions on VAWA.**

For help regarding an abusive relationship, you may call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or, for persons with hearing impairments, 1-800-787-3224 (TTY). You may also contact **AWARE 109 S. Sharpsville Ave, Ste D Sharon PA, 16146 (888) 981-1457 or www.merceraware.org**

For tenants who are or have been victims of stalking seeking help may visit the National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center at <https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>.

For help regarding sexual assault, you may contact **AWARE 109 S. Sharpsville Ave, Ste D Sharon PA, 16146 (888) 981-1457 or www.merceraware.org**

Victims of stalking seeking help may contact Domestic Violence **(609) 989-6041 Prosecutor Office**

Attachment: Certification form HUD-5382

Don't risk your changes for Federally assisted housing by providing false, incomplete, or inaccurate information on your application and recertification forms.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW



Purpose:

This is to inform you that there is certain information that you must provide when applying for assisted housing. There are penalties that apply if you knowingly omit information or give false information.

Penalties for Committing Fraud:

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) places high priority on preventing fraud. If your application or recertification forms contain false or incomplete information, you may be:

- Evicted from your apartment or house.
- Required to repay all overpaid rental assistance you received.
- Fined up to \$10,000.
- Imprisoned for up to 5 years.
- Prohibited from receiving future assistance.

Your State and local governments may have other laws and penalties as well.

Asking Questions:

When you sit down with the person who fills out your application, you should know what is expected of you. If you do not understand something, say so. That person can answer your question or find out what the answer is.

Completing the Application:

When you give your answers to application questions, you must include the following information:

- All sources of money you and any member of your family receives (wages, welfare payments, alimony, social security, pension, etc.)
- Any money you receive on behalf of your children (child support, social security for children, etc.)
- Income**
 - Income from assets (interest from savings account, credit union, or certificate of deposit; dividends from stocks etc.)
 - Earnings from the second job or part time job.
 - Any anticipated income (such as a bonus or pay raise you expect to receive.)
- Assets**
 - All bank accounts, savings bonds, certificates of deposit, stocks, real estates, etc. that is owned by you and any adult member of your family/household who will be living with you.
 - Any business or asset you sold in the past 2 years for less than its full value, such as your home to your children.
- Family/
Household
Members**
 - The names of all the people (adults and children) who will actually be living with you, regardless of if they are related to you or not.

Signing the Application:

- Do not sign any form unless you have read it, understand it, and are sure everything is complete and accurate.
- When you sign application and certification forms, you are claiming that they are complete to the best of your knowledge and belief. You are committing fraud if you sign a form knowing that it contains false or misleading information.
- Information you give on your application will be verified by your housing agency. In addition, HUD may do computer matches of the income you report with various Federal, State, or private agencies to verify that it is correct.

Recertifications:

You must provide updated information once a year. Some programs require that you report any changes in income or family/household composition immediately. Be sure to ask when you must recertify. You must report on recertification forms:

- All income changes, such as pay increases or benefits, change of job, loss of job, loss of benefits, etc. for all adult family/household members.
- Any family/household member who has moved in or out.
- All assets that you or your family/household members own and any asset that was sold in the last 2 years for less than its full value.

Beware of Fraud:

You should be aware of the following fraud schemes:

- Do not pay any money to file an application.
- Do not pay any money to move up on the waiting list.
- Do not pay for anything not covered by your lease.
- Get a receipt for any money you pay.
- Get a written explanation if you are required to pay any money other than rent (such as maintenance charges)

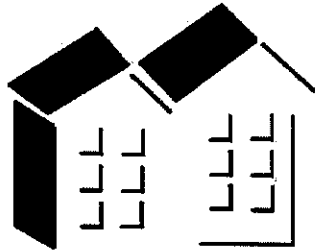
Reporting Abuse

If you are aware of anyone who has falsified an application, or if anyone tries to persuade you to make false statements, report them to the manager of your project of PHA. If you cannot report to the manager, call the local HUD office or the HUD Hotline at (202) 472-4200. This is not a toll free number. You can also write to the HUD HOTLINE, 451 Seventh Street S.W., Room 8254, Washington D.C. 20410.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH)



RHIP

RENTAL HOUSING INTEGRITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

What You Should Know About EIV

A Guide for Applicants & Tenants of Public Housing & Section 8 Programs

What is EIV?

The Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system is a web-based computer system that contains employment and income information of individuals who participate in HUD rental assistance programs. All Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) are required to use HUD's EIV system.

What information is in EIV and where does it come from?

HUD obtains information about you from your local PHA, the Social Security Administration (SSA), and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

HHS provides HUD with wage and employment information as reported by employers; and unemployment compensation information as reported by the State Workforce Agency (SWA).

SSA provides HUD with death, Social Security (SS) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) information.

What is the EIV information used for?

Primarily, the information is used by PHAs (and management agents hired by PHAs) for the following purposes to:

1. Confirm your name, date of birth (DOB), and Social Security Number (SSN) with SSA.
2. Verify your reported income sources and amounts.
3. Confirm your participation in only one HUD rental assistance program.
4. Confirm if you owe an outstanding debt to any PHA.
5. Confirm any negative status if you moved out of a subsidized unit (in the past) under the Public Housing or Section 8 program.
6. Follow up with you, other adult household members, or your listed emergency contact regarding deceased household members.

EIV will alert your PHA if you or anyone in your household has used a false SSN, failed to report complete and accurate income information, or is receiving rental assistance at another address. **Remember, you may receive rental assistance at only one home!**

EIV will also alert PHAs if you owe an outstanding debt to any PHA (in any state or U.S. territory) and any negative status when you voluntarily or involuntarily moved out of a subsidized unit under the Public Housing or Section 8 program. This information is used to determine your eligibility for rental assistance at the time of application.

The information in EIV is also used by HUD, HUD's Office of Inspector General (OIG), and auditors to ensure that your family and PHAs comply with HUD rules.

Overall, the purpose of EIV is to identify and prevent fraud within HUD rental assistance programs, so that limited taxpayer's dollars can assist as many eligible families as possible. EIV will help to improve the integrity of HUD rental assistance programs.

Is my consent required in order for information to be obtained about me?

Yes, your consent is required in order for HUD or the PHA to obtain information about you. By law, you are required to sign one or more consent forms. When you sign a form HUD-9886 (*Federal Privacy Act Notice and Authorization for Release of Information*) or a PHA consent form (which meets HUD standards), you are giving HUD and the PHA your consent for them to obtain information about you for the purpose of determining your eligibility and amount of rental assistance. The information collected about you will be used only to determine your eligibility for the program, unless you consent in writing to authorize additional uses of the information by the PHA.

Note: *If you or any of your adult household members refuse to sign a consent form, your request for initial or continued rental assistance may be denied. You may also be terminated from the HUD rental assistance program.*

What are my responsibilities?

As a tenant (participant) of a HUD rental assistance program, you and each adult household member must disclose complete and accurate information to the PHA, including full name, SSN, and DOB; income information; and certify that your reported household composition (household members), income, and expense information is true to the best of your knowledge.

Remember, you must notify your PHA if a household member dies or moves out. You must also obtain the PHA's approval to allow additional family members or friends to move in your home prior to them moving in.

What are the penalties for providing false information?

Knowingly providing false, inaccurate, or incomplete information is **FRAUD** and a **CRIME**.

If you commit fraud, you and your family may be subject to any of the following penalties:

1. Eviction
2. Termination of assistance
3. Repayment of rent that you should have paid had you reported your income correctly
4. Prohibited from receiving future rental assistance for a period of up to 10 years
5. Prosecution by the local, state, or Federal prosecutor, which may result in you being fined up to \$10,000 and/or serving time in jail.

Protect yourself by following HUD reporting requirements. When completing applications and reexaminations, you must include all sources of income you or any member of your household receives.

If you have any questions on whether money received should be counted as income or how your rent is determined, ask your PHA. When changes occur in your household income, contact your PHA immediately to determine if this will affect your rental assistance.

What do I do if the EIV information is incorrect?

Sometimes the source of EIV information may make an error when submitting or reporting information about you. If you do not agree with the EIV information, let your PHA know.

If necessary, your PHA will contact the source of the information directly to verify disputed income information. Below are the procedures you and the PHA should follow regarding incorrect EIV information.

Debts owed to PHAs and termination information reported in EIV originates from the PHA who provided you assistance in the past. If you dispute this information, contact your former PHA directly in writing to dispute this information and provide any documentation that supports your dispute. If the PHA determines that the disputed information is incorrect, the PHA will update or delete the record from EIV.

Employment and wage information reported in EIV originates from the employer. If you dispute this information, contact the employer in writing to dispute and request correction of the disputed employment and/or wage information. Provide your PHA with a copy of the letter that you sent to the employer. If you are unable to get the employer to correct the information, you should contact the SWA for assistance.

Unemployment benefit information reported in EIV originates from the SWA. If you dispute this information, contact the SWA in writing to dispute and request correction of the disputed unemployment benefit information. Provide your PHA with a copy of the letter that you sent to the SWA.

Death, SS and SSI benefit information reported in EIV originates from the SSA. If you dispute this information, contact the SSA at (800) 772-1213, or visit their website at: www.socialsecurity.gov. You may need to visit your local SSA office to have disputed death information corrected.

Additional Verification. The PHA, with your consent, may submit a third party verification form to the provider (or reporter) of your income for completion and submission to the PHA.

You may also provide the PHA with third party documents (i.e. pay stubs, benefit award letters, bank statements, etc.) which you may have in your possession.

Identity Theft. Unknown EIV information to you can be a sign of identity theft. Sometimes someone else may use your SSN, either on purpose or by accident. So, if you suspect someone is using your SSN, you should check your Social Security records to ensure your income is calculated correctly (call SSA at (800) 772-1213); file an identity theft complaint with your local police department or the Federal Trade Commission (call FTC at (877) 438-4338, or you may visit their website at: <http://www.ftc.gov>). Provide your PHA with a copy of your identity theft complaint.

Where can I obtain more information on EIV and the income verification process?

Your PHA can provide you with additional information on EIV and the income verification process. You may also read more about EIV and the income verification process on HUD's Public and Indian Housing EIV web pages at: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/pih/iv/cfm>.

The information in this Guide pertains to applicants and participants (tenants) of the following HUD-PIH rental assistance programs:

1. Public Housing (24 CFR 960); and
2. Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), (24 CFR 982); and
3. Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation (24 CFR 882); and
4. Project-Based Voucher (24 CFR 983)

Authorization for the Release of Information/ Privacy Act Notice

to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
and the Housing Agency/Authority (HA)

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

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 2501-0014

exp. 1/31/2014

PHA requesting release of information; **(Cross out space if none)**
(Full address, name of contact person, and date)

IHA requesting release of information; **(Cross out space if none)**
(Full address, name of contact person, and date)

Authority: Section 904 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988, as amended by Section 903 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 and Section 3003 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993. This law is found at 42 U.S.C. 3544.

This law requires that you sign a consent form authorizing: (1) HUD and the Housing Agency/Authority (HA) to request verification of salary and wages from current or previous employers; (2) HUD and the HA to request wage and unemployment compensation claim information from the state agency responsible for keeping that information; (3) HUD to request certain tax return information from the U.S. Social Security Administration and the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The law also requires independent verification of income information. Therefore, HUD or the HA may request information from financial institutions to verify your eligibility and level of benefits.

Purpose: In signing this consent form, you are authorizing HUD and the above-named HA to request income information from the sources listed on the form. HUD and the HA need this information to verify your household's income, in order to ensure that you are eligible for assisted housing benefits and that these benefits are set at the correct level. HUD and the HA may participate in computer matching programs with these sources in order to verify your eligibility and level of benefits.

Uses of Information to be Obtained: HUD is required to protect the income information it obtains in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a. HUD may disclose information (other than tax return information) for certain routine uses, such as to other government agencies for law enforcement purposes, to Federal agencies for employment suitability purposes and to HAs for the purpose of determining housing assistance. The HA is also required to protect the income information it obtains in accordance with any applicable State privacy law. HUD and HA employees may be subject to penalties for unauthorized disclosures or improper uses of the income information that is obtained based on the consent form. **Private owners may not request or receive information authorized by this form.**

Who Must Sign the Consent Form: Each member of your household who is 18 years of age or older must sign the consent form. Additional signatures must be obtained from new adult members joining the household or whenever members of the household become 18 years of age.

Persons who apply for or receive assistance under the following programs are required to sign this consent form:

- PHA-owned rental public housing
- Turnkey III Homeownership Opportunities
- Mutual Help Homeownership Opportunity
- Section 23 and 19(c) leased housing
- Section 23 Housing Assistance Payments
- HA-owned rental Indian housing
- Section 8 Rental Certificate
- Section 8 Rental Voucher
- Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation

Failure to Sign Consent Form: Your failure to sign the consent form may result in the denial of eligibility or termination of assisted housing benefits, or both. Denial of eligibility or termination of benefits is subject to the HA's grievance procedures and Section 8 informal hearing procedures.

Sources of Information To Be Obtained

State Wage Information Collection Agencies. (This consent is limited to wages and unemployment compensation I have received during period(s) within the last 5 years when I have received assisted housing benefits.)

U.S. Social Security Administration (HUD only) (This consent is limited to the wage and self employment information and payments of retirement income as referenced at Section 6103(I)(7)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code.)

U.S. Internal Revenue Service (HUD only) (This consent is limited to unearned income [i.e., interest and dividends].)

Information may also be obtained directly from: (a) current and former employers concerning salary and wages and (b) financial institutions concerning unearned income (i.e., interest and dividends). I understand that income information obtained from these sources will be used to verify information that I provide in determining eligibility for assisted housing programs and the level of benefits. Therefore, this consent form only authorizes release directly from employers and financial institutions of information regarding any period(s) within the last 5 years when I have received assisted housing benefits.

Consent: I consent to allow HUD or the HA to request and obtain income information from the sources listed on this form for the purpose of verifying my eligibility and level of benefits under HUD's assisted housing programs. I understand that HAs that receive income information under this consent form cannot use it to deny, reduce or terminate assistance without first independently verifying what the amount was, whether I actually had access to the funds and when the funds were received. In addition, I must be given an opportunity to contest those determinations.

This consent form expires 15 months after signed.

Signatures:

_____	_____		
Head of Household	Date		
_____		_____	_____
Social Security Number (if any) of Head of Household		Other Family Member over age 18	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Spouse	Date	Other Family Member over age 18	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Other Family Member over age 18	Date	Other Family Member over age 18	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Other Family Member over age 18	Date	Other Family Member over age 18	Date

Privacy Act Notice. Authority: The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is authorized to collect this information by the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et. seq.), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d), and by the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19). The Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3543) requires applicants and participants to submit the Social Security Number of each household member who is six years old or older. Purpose: Your income and other information are being collected by HUD to determine your eligibility, the appropriate bedroom size, and the amount your family will pay toward rent and utilities. Other Uses: HUD uses your family income and other information to assist in managing and monitoring HUD-assisted housing programs, to protect the Government's financial interest, and to verify the accuracy of the information you provide. This information may be released to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, when relevant, and to civil, criminal, or regulatory investigators and prosecutors. However, the information will not be otherwise disclosed or released outside of HUD, except as permitted or required by law. Penalty: You must provide all of the information requested by the HA, including all Social Security Numbers you, and all other household members age six years and older, have and use. Giving the Social Security Numbers of all household members six years of age and older is mandatory, and not providing the Social Security Numbers will affect your eligibility. Failure to provide any of the requested information may result in a delay or rejection of your eligibility approval.

Penalties for Misusing this Consent:

HUD, the HA and any owner (or any employee of HUD, the HA or the owner) may be subject to penalties for unauthorized disclosures or improper uses of information collected based on the consent form.

Use of the information collected based on the form HUD 9886 is restricted to the purposes cited on the form HUD 9886. Any person who knowingly or willfully requests, obtains or discloses any information under false pretenses concerning an applicant or participant may be subject to a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000.

Any applicant or participant affected by negligent disclosure of information may bring civil action for damages, and seek other relief, as may be appropriate, against the officer or employee of HUD, the HA or the owner responsible for the unauthorized disclosure or improper use.