



# Section 8 Applicants

## Frequently Asked Questions



### SECTION 8 APPLICATION PROCESS

#### **How can I apply for Section 8?**

Currently the NYCHA Section 8 waiting list is closed to the general public.

#### **When will Section 8 be open to the general public?**

Currently there is no date set to reopen the waitlist to the general public.

#### **What are the steps in the application process?**

The waitlist is currently not open to the general public. When the waitlist is open, you may complete a preliminary application. When your name is next on the preliminary waitlist, we will contact you to complete the Section 8 application online. We will also conduct a criminal background check on all family members who are 16 years of age and older. Then we will schedule you for an eligibility interview. You will need to bring in all your income and vital documents to the interview.

#### **What can I do to expedite my application?**

We cannot expedite an application at the request of an individual or third party. Application selection is based on priority and original application date. If you have had an interview, ensure that you promptly comply with all requests for documentation.

#### **What does a Section 8 application priority code mean?**

The Housing Authority has a Priority System in which it ranks each applicant. Applications are assigned a priority code using the information that is given on the application.



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## **What does it mean when an Applicant is on the Preliminary Wait List for Section 8?**

The Preliminary Wait List is a pool of applicants waiting to be reached for an eligibility interview. It is the initial stage of the application process, upon submission of your application to NYCHA.

## **How do I check the status of my Section 8 application?**

You can check the status of your application on the [self service portal](#) by using your computer, smart phone, tablet, or other internet enabled device.

## **SECTION 8 WAITLIST CANVASS**

### **Why did I received a canvass letter from NYCHA requesting that I update my application?**

To ensure that our records are up-to-date, NYCHA will periodically request that you update your application and confirm you still have interest in the Section 8 program. You must update your application on the [self service portal](#) by [using your computer, smart phone, tablet, or other internet enabled device](#), by the deadline indicated on the canvass letter if you would like to remain on the wait list.

### **Do I need a social security number to register to use the Self-Service portal?**

No. If you do not have a valid social security number because of your citizenship status, please select 'NO' under the Social Security field in the portal. If you cannot access the portal because of an invalid SSN or SSN that has been issued since your last application, please call 718-707-7771 and then will be given an 'alternate ID' which you can use to register in the Self-Service portal and update your information.



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### **UPDATING SECTION 8 APPLICATION**

#### **How can I change my contact information in the Self-Service portal?**

Once you register, log in, and review your case information, you may click on the "update" button available in each section of your case and contact information. You may update select case information and your mailing/home addresses and phone numbers. Please be sure to submit your changes using the submit button after you have typed your changes.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **Does NYCHA consider criminal offenses when determining eligibility for the Section 8 program?**

Criminal offenses are taken into consideration for Public Housing and Section 8 in accordance with HUD regulations. (See Administrative Plan for further details)

#### **If an applicant/family member has a criminal record will they be accepted for Section 8?**

It depends on when the offense took place. Different offenses carry different ineligibility periods.

#### **If I am not citizen, or do not have no a Social Security number (SSN), am I eligible for Section 8?**

You do not have to have a SSN or be a citizen of the United States to apply for Section 8, but at least one member of your family must be a United States citizen or a non-citizen with eligible immigration status.



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### **VOUCHER ISSUANCE & SEARCHING**

#### **When will I get my voucher?**

We cannot estimate when applicants will receive a voucher. We will contact applicants when they are next on the waitlist.

#### **How many bedrooms will be assigned on my voucher?**

The bedroom size depends on how many people are part of your family and NYCHA occupancy standards. You will be given this information when you are called in for an Eligibility interview.