

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
Homeless Assistance Program
Program Definitions for SFY22

Homeless Person

The BHAP program utilizes the homeless definition adopted by AHFC in [AS 18.56.090\(f\)](#).

"Homelessness" means the state of an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and includes an individual who:

1. Is sharing the housing of other individuals because of loss of housing, economic hardship, domestic violence, or a similar reason;
2. Is living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or camping ground because of the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. Is living in an emergency or transitional shelter;
4. Is abandoned in a hospital;
5. Is waiting for a foster care placement;
6. has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
7. Is living in a car, a park, a public space, an abandoned building, substandard housing, a bus or train station, or a similar setting;
8. Is fleeing a domestic violence situation, does not have an alternative residence, and lacks the resources and support needed to obtain housing;
9. Is being evicted within a week, does not have an alternative residence, and lacks the resources and support needed to obtain housing;
10. Is being discharged within a week from an institution, including a mental health treatment facility, substance abuse treatment facility, or prison, in which the individual has been a resident for more than 30 consecutive days, does not have an alternative residence, and lacks the resources and support needed to obtain housing.

Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are persons experiencing mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcoholism, other substance-related disorders, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, or traumatic brain injury [AS 47.30.056](#).

Beneficiaries of the Trust include the following broad groups of Alaskans experiencing:

1. mental illness;
2. intellectual disability, a developmental disability, or both;
3. chronic alcohol or drug addiction
4. Alzheimer's disease or related dementia
5. traumatic brain injuries

Homeless Individual with a Disability adapted from HUD McKinney Vento / HEARTH

IN GENERAL.—The term “homeless individual with a disability” means an individual who is homeless, as defined in section 103, and has a disability that:

1. Is expected to be long-continuing or of indefinite duration;
2. Substantially impedes the individual's ability to live independently;
3. Could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions;
4. Is a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury;
5. Is a developmental disability, as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 USC 15002); or
6. Is the disease of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome or any condition arising from the etiologic agent for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, including infection with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Homeless Services

Recipients under this component will provide non-housing financial assistance and supports such as street outreach, homeless prevention, or rapid re-housing (a.k.a housing placement). BHAP

recipients under this program area will report on the circumstances necessitating the assistance, the cost per household for any financial assistance and the degree to which households assisted in the prior three-month reporting period have remained housed.

Emergency Shelter

Emergency Shelter includes overnight sleep space for individuals requesting assistance in an established homeless shelter, hotel, motel, or rotating location such as a church or public building.

Housing Placement (Rapid Re-Housing) Services

Housing Placement or Rapid ReHousing includes actions taken to assist homeless persons in obtaining permanent housing in properties not operated by the grantee; or payment of security deposits, utility deposits, or first month's rent. Rapid Rehousing eligibility requires that a person or family meet the definition of literal homelessness defined in AS 18.56.090(f).

Homeless Prevention Services

Homeless Prevention includes actions taken to prevent persons in imminent danger of becoming homeless from losing their permanent residence. Allowable activities include payment of past due rent or mortgage payments; payment of water, sewer, heating fuel, or electric utility bills; or payment of basic telephone costs when the service is essential to prevent homelessness.

Eligible supportive services for this category also include one-time expenses that may not be directly related to a housing cost but are indirectly necessary for the client to be able to maintain employment to afford housing. Costs such as car repair, purchase of work-related clothing would be eligible supportive services, provided the need is documented in the client file.

Homeless Prevention services are specifically short-term crisis responses for individuals who **are not literally homeless or residing in grant-funded transitional housing.**

Supportive Services

The provision of food, food supplies, and other household goods and supplies; child care for homeless families while in emergency shelter or transitional housing; transportation and other services designed by the applicant and approved by AHFC to overcome housing barriers for the homeless.

Supportive services must be documented in the client file. Documentation must include justification for how the supportive service is connected to obtaining or maintaining housing.

Transitional Housing

Transitional housing is temporary supportive housing, provided by the grantee, to assist homeless persons in preparing for and obtaining permanent housing within 24 months.

Temporary housing includes non-profit hotels/motels which specifically target homeless persons in their policies.

Unduplicated

Unduplicated is defined as anyone receiving services during the reporting period. BHAP monthly and quarterly reports focus on gathering demographic data and housing outcomes for Alaskans. BHAP reporting provides a statewide picture of who is experiencing housing instability in our state and how overall service delivery flows from month to month.