
FACT SHEET: Housing Assistance Programs

Public Housing

Properties owned by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation provide income-based rental assistance in 1,612 units in 13 communities. Many of these units providing housing for seniors, 62 years of age or older, or adults with a disability.

Housing Choice Voucher: Families whose incomes are at or below 50 percent of Area Median Income may be eligible for Housing Choice Vouchers. Housing Choice Voucher is the largest rental subsidy program supported by AHFC with 4,397 vouchers available statewide. (This voucher is sometimes referred to as “Section 8”). AHFC’s Housing Choice Voucher is available in 12 communities.

Families receiving housing assistance participate in one of two programs:

Step: Step is designed to offer families with a “work able” adult opportunities to increase economic independence and transition into rental or homeownership. Rental assistance in the Step program is time-limited to five-years, and rent is gradually “stepped up” throughout the family’s participation.

Classic: Classic is designed to provide long-term, stable rental assistance for families who rely on fixed income sources such as Social Security and disability income. It serves seniors and families with disabilities. Families can expect to pay 28.5 percent of gross monthly income as rent.

Housing Vouchers

Including the Housing Choice Voucher described above, AHFC provides rental assistance which allows low-income Alaskans to rent privately-owned housing. AHFC subsidizes the tenant’s rent by paying the landlord directly. The amount of the subsidy is initially based on a percentage of the tenants’ gross income. Voucher programs targeted at specific populations with state or community partners include:

- **Empowering Choice** for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault
- **Returning Home** for Alaskans on parole or probation
- **Making a Home** for youth aging out of foster care
- **Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing** for homeless veterans
- **Moving Home** program for individuals transitioning into housing from homelessness or institutional settings

Administration of Programs

The federal department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) financially supports AHFC’s administration of housing programs. AHFC is one of just 39 *Moving to Work* Agencies across the U.S. that allows AHFC to apply innovation to programs meeting Alaskan’s needs.