

## Question & Answers to Applying for a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher

Question: Do I have to come in to the SMHA offices to apply for a Section 8 Voucher?

Answer: No. SMHA has made applying for housing assistance easier than ever. All you need is computer access to submit a pre-application online. Just go to SMHA's website at [www.starkmha.org](http://www.starkmha.org); click on the "Apply Here" link and it will automatically take you to the online application site.

Question: Can I still come in to the SMHA offices and submit a paper application.

Answer: No. SMHA has completely moved to an electronic pre-application. However, there will be 2 computers available for those with no other internet access.

Question: Do I still need to submit all of my documentation when I complete my online pre-application?

Answer: No. You will not need to submit any documentation until your application is pulled from the Section 8 HCV waiting list. We will contact you at that time and let you know what you will need to provide so final eligibility can be determined.

Question: When can I apply?

Answer: Applications for Public Housing are currently being accepted 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list will open and be an option for you to apply for at 8:00 am Friday, May 1, 2015. It will be available 24 hours a day/7 days a week until Monday, June 15, 2015 at 4:30 pm. Only the Public Housing waiting lists will remain open beyond this date.

Question: How do I apply for a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher?

Answer: All you have to do is go to SMHA's website at [www.starkmha.org](http://www.starkmha.org) and click on the "Apply Here" link. You will be directed to another site to submit your online pre-application. Just follow the prompts and completely fill out all of the information asked for. You will be sent an email letting you know when your application has been accepted.

Question: After I apply, when will I get my voucher?

Answer: We are unable to tell anyone when they will receive their voucher because of the different factors that are involved. It primarily depends on the funding that SMHA receives and the rate that people drop off the current Program. We cannot issue new vouchers to applicants until 1) we have sufficient funding and 2) we have available vouchers.

Question: I have or have found a landlord that will take a voucher. What do I need to do next?

Answer: Until your name is pulled from the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list and final eligibility is determined, there is nothing that can be done to assist you. Remember on the Section 8 HCV Program the Voucher goes with you and not any specific unit or landlord. Until you receive your voucher from SMHA, we are not able to assist with rent to any landlord.

Question: I have already submitted an online pre-application for Public Housing. Do I need to submit another application?

Answer: No. Just login to your online account and add the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list as one of your waiting list choices.