
Notification of Eligibility to Apply For Hardship Exemption

Date:

Tenant Name:

Tenant Address:

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION: Any time that a SMHA Household's income decreases to the point where their Total Tenant Payment (TTP) towards rent and utilities drops to \$50 or below (the SMHA Minimum Rent amount), tenants may seek an exemption from having to pay the SMHA minimum rent of \$50. A request must be submitted to your property manager to see if you qualify for the exemption based on established criteria. Since your TTP now meets the \$50 minimum, you are eligible to apply for the exemption should you so choose.

If you would like to apply for a Hardship Exemption from the minimum rent, you must contact your MANAGER to complete the appropriate paperwork and provide the required verification to support your eligibility for the exemption.

Below is the list of the qualifying eligibility criteria that must be met in order for a household to be eligible for the Hardship Exemption. A household must meet at least one of these eligibility criteria to qualify.

1. Family has lost eligibility for a Federal, State or Local assistance program.
2. Family is awaiting an eligibility determination for a Federal, State or Local assistance program.
3. Family is unable to pay the minimum rent and will be evicted as a result of the minimum rent.
4. Family income has decreased due to loss of employment or other change in family circumstances.
5. There has been a recent death in the family that has created a financial hardship.
6. Family has experienced other circumstances that need to be considered by the PHA which the family must explain.
7. Total monthly household income is \$115 Disability Assistance payment through the Stark County Department of Job & Family Services.

Once a determination that the family is eligible for the Hardship Exemption has been made, SMHA will make a further determination as to whether the Hardship is expected to be short-term (90 days or less) or long-term. Short-term exemptions will require the family to pay back the minimum rent once the short-term qualification expires.

If a household is approved for an exemption, continued eligibility for the hardship exemption will be reviewed at Annual Recertification.