

What Section 8 programs does the Housing Authority offer?

The Berkeley Housing Authority administers seven "Section 8" Programs:

1. The traditional Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Anyone may apply, when the wait list is open; there are income, citizenship, and criminal background requirements. Assisted families are required to locate a suitable unit in the private market with an owner willing to participate in the Section 8 Program. The waitlist is currently closed.
2. The Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program. Anyone may apply, when the waitlist is open; there are income, citizenship, and criminal background requirements. Assisted families are offered quality rental units in buildings pre-approved by the Housing Authority for "project-based" assistance. Some units are restricted to persons 62 years or older; or disabled individuals; or individuals with AIDS or HIV. the waitlist is currently closed.
3. The Mainstream Voucher Program. This special voucher program is designed to serve a very specific population: non-elderly (under 62 years of age), disabled, single person or families who are: homeless or at risk of homelessness; at risk of institutionalization or already institutionalized; or current clients in supportive or rapid re-housing. BHA has only 82 Mainstream Vouchers, and is only taking referrals from specific organizations including the Coordinated Entry System (operated by BACS), Women's Daytime Drop in Center, and Berkeley Mental Health. For referrals from these organizations **only**, please call: 510-981-5483.
4. The Emergency Housing Voucher Program. The Berkeley Housing Authority was awarded 51 Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs), to assist individuals and families who are homeless; at risk of homelessness; fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking; or recently homeless. EHV's will help individuals and families find housing and remain stably housed long-term. BHA is working with the Alameda County Coordinated Entry System (CES) which will refer eligible individuals and families to us for distribution of these new vouchers. If you are experiencing homelessness or domestic violence/human trafficking, please [click here](#) for information on how to get connected with the CES.
5. The VASH Program. This special voucher program is designed to serve a very specific population. These vouchers are administered in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and enable homeless veterans and their families to access affordable housing. The case managers at the local Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC) are responsible for referring eligible homeless veterans to the Berkeley Housing Authority. BHA has only 20 VASH Vouchers, and is only taking referrals from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
6. The Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Program. This program serves homeless individuals and couples. Assisted individuals are offered housing at one of two properties in the City.
7. The Project Move Up Program. Annually, BHA will receive Project Move-up referrals from the SRO Moderate Rehabilitation Program and Berkeley's Shelter Plus Care program. A maximum of 10 referrals will be placed on the waiting list for Project Move up vouchers. This is a 5-year program, starting in 2017, and only operational subject to

funding availability. Subject to HUD funding, Project Move-up is a program to facilitate the progression of individuals/families from homelessness – to housing via the Mod Rehab Program – to permanently affordable housing, via a Section 8 Tenant Based Voucher. The intent is to admit 5 individuals from BHA’s Single Room Occupancy Program (UA Homes and Erna P. Harris) and 5 individuals from the City of Berkeley’s Shelter + Care program each calendar year for up to 5 years. These households must submit an application to the Section 8 Voucher waiting list, and have a written referral from the property manager and/or case manager. Selection criteria for Project Move-up referrals to BHA are determined by Shelter Plus Care staff and Moderate Rehab property management, identifying a fair and systematic determination process, with priority given to those ready to live independently.