



# PORTABILITY FACT SHEET

## HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

### What is portability?

Portability is the right to move, with assistance, to any place in the U.S. that has a Section 8 voucher program.

### Am I eligible for portability?

**New to the program:** If you are a nonresident applicant (if you are out-of-jurisdiction at the time of your initial application to the program), you are not eligible for portability until after you live in this jurisdiction with voucher assistance for at least 12 months. If you are in jurisdiction at the time of application, you are eligible for portability. The receiving public housing agency (PHA) will re-determine your eligibility based on their program's income limits; you may or may not be eligible. Please contact the PHA in the area where you wish to move, and find out their policies before you decide to move there.

**Current participants:** To be eligible to port, you must be eligible to move with continued assistance.

- You cannot have violated the terms of the lease or program
- You cannot owe any money to your landlord or to HRHA
- If currently in an assisted unit, you cannot vacate your current unit in violation of your lease
- You must give landlord proper written notice to terminate your lease (we must receive a copy)

Note: Once your new lease starts, we cannot make any more payments on your old unit. For example, if the new assistance begins on November 25, and your notice to the old landlord goes through December 31, you will be responsible for the full market rent on the old unit for December.

### How do I request to use portability?

If you are eligible and wish to port to another area, you must submit a written request to transfer (see Portability Request form). If you do not know the PHA in the area where you wish to move, tell your HCV Specialist where you plan to move, and we can provide you with local PHA information. Some agencies are listed below, or you can search at

[https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/pha/contacts/](https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts/)

	<b>Fairfax</b>	<b>Richmond</b>	<b>Staunton</b>	<b>Waynesboro</b>	<b>Prince William Co.</b>	<b>VHDA</b>
Phone	703-246-5100	804-780-4200	540-886-3413	540-946-9230	703-792-7530	804-782-1986
Fax	703-246-5115	804-649-0659	540-885-5414	540-946-9233	703-792-4978	804-343-8390

### What happens next?

We will contact the receiving PHA to determine which agency (theirs or ours) will be responsible for the cost of your voucher. Once that is determined, we will send them your paperwork, so they can issue you a voucher from their agency and complete a briefing with you.

If you move to another area, the rules and policies of that PHA will apply to you. This includes their payment standards, occupancy standards and utility allowances, which may cause a change in your subsidy amount. You may be subject to background screening. If you do move, you will be expected to stay in the new area for at least 12 months, so choose your new unit carefully.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS!

- To exercise portability, you must be holding a current, valid voucher.
- Changes to household composition must be approved and finalized before porting.
- Wherever you choose to live, you must locate a unit before the voucher expires.
- Make sure the receiving PHA has your current address and contact information.
- Contact us at 540-434-7386, with any questions about your transfer.