

Housing Assistance for Renters

The purpose of this guide is to help you understand what federal resources and services may be available to you as someone facing financial concerns related to rent or as someone navigating accessibility challenges in your rental.



Point your smart phone camera at this QR code to access the digital version of this guide.

This resource guide was developed for the project Increasing Access to Decision-Making Support For Older Adults within the [Approaching Retirement](#) Life Experience.

The guide was prepared under the direction of the [President's Management Council](#), with particular support from the Office of Management and Budget, the General Services Administration, and funds made available for Federal Government Priority Goals to implement select Life Experience projects in support of the President's Management Agenda. Priority 2 of the President's Management Agenda focuses on delivering excellent, equitable, and secure Federal services and [customer experience](#) by designing, building, and managing government service delivery for key [life experiences](#) that cut across federal agencies.

This guide consolidates resources and benefits information from seven federal agencies to support older adults in their ability to make informed decisions about health care, finances, housing, and nutrition.

The guide incorporates expertise and materials from the following federal agencies and departments:

- Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- U.S. Digital Service, Office of Management and Budget
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Department of the Treasury
- Social Security Administration

This guide addresses the following questions

Paying Rent

- I can't afford my rent, what can I do? (p. 4)
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Tenant Rights

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- I need to request changes to my living space for accessibility and safety, what are my options as a tenant? (p. 7)



This guide answers questions at a high level and points you to federal resources to take action or learn more.



I can't afford my rent, what can I do?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Planning (HUD) website has rental assistance information organized by state.



RESOURCES

Contact a housing counseling agency:

If you need advice on any housing concern, contact a national, state, or local HUD-approved housing counseling agency to speak with a housing counselor.

Visit: [HUD.gov/findacounselor](https://www.hud.gov/findacounselor)

Call: 1-800-569-4287. Interpreters are available in over 250 languages.

Call: People with hearing or speech impairments can call 1-202-708-1455 for TTY assistance.

Find rental assistance in your state:

Select the state you live in (or plan to live in) from the alphabetical list of states. You will be directed to information about subsidized housing, public housing, and House Choice Vouchers (Section 8) in your state of residence.

Visit: [HUD.gov/topics/rental_assistance/local](https://www.hud.gov/topics/rental_assistance/local)

The HUD webpage will either list resources for your state or it will redirect you to a reputable state-managed resource page.

Email: HUD-PIHRC@ardentinc.com for specific questions

Call: 1-800-955-2232 Public and Indian Housing Information Resource Center toll-free

Find housing resources in your area:

The HUD Resource Locator can help you find affordable housing, your local HUD and public housing authority (PHA) offices, local homeless resources, and elderly and special needs housing.

Visit: [resources.HUD.gov](https://resources.hud.gov) for the HUD Directory





I am an older adult and can't afford my rent. Am I eligible for housing that is part of the Section 202 Program?

HUD stands for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Planning

The Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program is a HUD-assisted housing program that includes ongoing project-based rental assistance for rental homes for households comprised of at least one person age 62 years old or older at the time of initial occupancy.

RESOURCES

Learn more about the Section 202 program:

Visit HUD's website to learn more about the Section 202 Support Housing for the Elderly Program.

Visit: [HUD.gov/program_offices/housing/mfh/mfinfo/section202ptl](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/housing/mfh/mfinfo/section202ptl)
Email: answers@HUD.gov with questions about the program

See what resources you may qualify for:

Use the Housing Plus Services Toolkits provided by LeadingAge LTSS Center to find resources.

Visit: [ltsscenter.org/hps-toolkit](https://www.ltsscenter.org/hps-toolkit)

Get information about multi-family assisted housing:

Visit HUD's website to learn more about subsidies through the project-based rental assistance programs.

Visit: [eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx](https://www.eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx)
Visit: resources.HUD.gov/





I'm close to getting evicted, what are my rights?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Planning (HUD) website has information about tenant rights organized by state.

I have an eviction notice, what can I do?

At-risk tenants can contact a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency or a legal service provider.



RESOURCES

Learn about your state's tenant rights, laws, and protections:

Select the state you live in (or plan to live in) from the alphabetical list of states.

The HUD webpage will either list resources for your state or it will redirect you to a reputable state-managed resource page.

Visit: [HUD.gov/topics/rental_assistance/tenantrights](https://www.hud.gov/topics/rental_assistance/tenantrights)

Find a HUD-certified Housing Counselor:

Use HUD's Find a Counselor tool to find a national, state, or local HUD-approved housing counseling agency to speak to a housing counselor.

Visit: [HUD.gov/findacounselor](https://www.hud.gov/findacounselor)

Call: 1-800-569-4287. Interpreters are available in over 250 languages

Call: People with hearing or speech impairments can call 1-202-708-1455 for TTY assistance.





I need to request changes to my living space for accessibility and safety, what are my options as a tenant?

HUD stands for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Planning

ACL stands for the Administration for Community Living

Federal law requires housing providers to make reasonable accommodations and make or permit reasonable modifications for individuals with disabilities.

Organizations (such as fair housing councils, advocacy groups) that participate in HUD’s Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) may be able to speak to a housing provider on your behalf or otherwise provide you with information and assistance.

RESOURCES

Find a FHIP organization near you:

HUD provides a list of FHIP programs by state. Search for your state.

Visit: [HUD.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/contact_fhip](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/contact_fhip)

Get help addressing disability discrimination in housing:

Visit HUD’s website to file a fair housing complaint.

Visit: [HUD.gov/fairhousing/fileacomplaint](https://www.hud.gov/fairhousing/fileacomplaint)

Find local resources with the Eldercare Locator tool:

The ACL Eldercare Locator tool utilizes your zip code to connect you to local resources for housing, utilities, transportation, food, healthcare, and caregiver support.

Visit: eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx
Call: 1-800-677-1116



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