

Applying for Massachusetts Public Housing

There are three different types of state-aided housing available: low-income families, elderly persons, and those with disabilities.

Eligibility:

- Low income households are usually eligible for state-aided public housing if they earn no more than 80% of the area median income. You can find details on income limits here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/income-limits-for-state-aided-public-housing/download>
- If you or a family member are 60+ or handicapped and under 60 years old, you may qualify as well.
- Further information on eligibility can be found by contacting a Local Housing Authority. A list of Local Housing Authorities can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/local-housing-authority-contact-listing>

Applying Online or by Mail:

Applications for state-aided public housing are done through the [Common Housing Application for Massachusetts Public Housing \(CHAMP\)](#). You can use CHAMP online or in person in a range of languages such as English, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Online:

- Create an account and fill out an application. This link provides step by step instructions: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/new-and-returning-applicants-how-to-create-a-champ-account/download>
- Pay close attention to asterisked (*) sections! If these are left blanked, your application will not be fully processed.

Apply on Paper:

- Download a paper CHAMP application in your language of choice in the list titled "Paper Applications": <https://www.mass.gov/guides/how-to-apply-for-public-housing>
- Keep an eye out for asterisked sections.
- Make sure that at the end of your application, you select housing programs at each Local Housing Authority that you would want to live.
- Once completed, mail or hand deliver it to a Local Housing Authority. A link to all local housing authorities can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/local-housing-authority-contact-listing> . You only need to submit an application to one LHA even if you have applied for housing programs at another.
- Once submitted, you will receive an Application ID Number in order to access your application.

Further Information:

- Further information regarding what to expect after you have applied, how to make changes to your application, frequently asked questions, and links to important documents can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/how-to-apply-for-public-housing>