



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

SECTION 8 TENANT NEWSLETTER

February & March 2014

New Voucher Payment Standards

The Section 8 Voucher Payment Standard (VPS) is the most the Housing Authority can pay for rent on the family's behalf. The VPS depends on your Voucher Bedroom Size. The Voucher Payment Standards have changed as follows:

Voucher Bedroom Size	SRO	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Voucher Payment Standard	\$719	\$958	\$1,156	\$1,443	\$1,939	\$2,316	\$2,664	\$3,011

How Will the New VPS Affect You?

For new admissions and recontracts, the new VPS will be used effective March 1, 2014.

For annual reexaminations, the new VPS will be used at your upcoming annual re-examination, starting with re-examinations effective July 1, 2014 or later.

If you have any questions you may contact Section 8 by:

Telephone: (213) 252-2500 ♦ Facsimile: (213) 252-2028 ♦ E-mail: tenants.s8@hacla.org

Section 8 Department Achievements of 2013

We are pleased to inform you that your Housing Authority (HACLA) expects to rank as a High Performer for the **sixth** consecutive year, subject to approval by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

HUD annually assigns each Housing Authority an overall performance rating. High performer rating is achieved when a Housing Authority receives a SEMAP score of at least 90 percent. SEMAP consists of indicators used by HUD to measure the performance of Housing Authorities.

The indicators show whether the Housing Authority has helped eligible families to afford decent rental units at a reasonable cost as intended by Federal housing legislation.

SEMAP provides procedures for HUD to identify Housing Authorities' management capabilities and deficiencies in order to target monitoring and program assistance more effectively.

Housing Authorities use the SEMAP performance analysis to assess and improve their own program operations.

2014 Budget

On January 17, 2014 the budget to authorize funds for the federal government was signed into law. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that the approved budget will be sufficient to cover all families currently receiving Section 8 assistance.

The Housing Authority will be closed on:

Monday, March 31st in observance of Cesar Chavez Day

You can find the Tenant Newsletter online at: http://www.hacla.org/tnt_news_1/

Pilot Re-Entry Program

The Pilot Re-Entry Program is designed to allow ex-offenders leaving the criminal justice system to reunite with their families receiving Section 8 housing assistance. The assisted family must approve the admission. The Housing Authority may waive criminal background check requirement.

Ex-offenders will be required to participate in re-entry supportive services provided by community-based organizations and/or public agencies. These organizations and agencies will have been preselected by the Housing Authority.

Section 8 Advisory Meeting

Section 8 Advisory Meetings give you the opportunity to provide the HACLA with input on Section 8 policies, procedures, and practices, as well as to learn about changes and challenges to the Section 8 program. The following is the next upcoming meeting in 2014:

Date & Time	Location
Friday, April 18, 2014, 3:00pm	Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles 2600 Wilshire Blvd. Board Room Los Angeles, CA 90057

If you would like to attend, you may register online at www.hacla.org, click on "Calendar of Events" or by e-mail S8Advisory@hacla.org.

CalWORKs Participants

If you need moving assistance because of a financial hardship due to a rent increase, you may be eligible to participate in the **Moving Assistance (MA) Program**. The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) may be able to help you move into more affordable housing if you qualify for the program.

To be eligible for the MA Program, you must:

- Be receiving CalWORKs;
- Be actively participating in Welfare-to-Work (DPSS' GAIN Program);
- Be experiencing a financial hardship due to a rent increase that puts you at risk of becoming homeless;
- Secure permanent housing where the rent amount does not exceed 80% of your Total Monthly Household Income.

If you would like to find out if you qualify for the MA Program, contact your DPSS Eligibility Worker and let them know that you are at risk of becoming homeless due to a rent increase and that you would like to apply for the MA Program.

If you would like more information on the MA Program you can visit DPSS' website at: <http://dpss.lacounty.gov/dpss/hcm/> and click on the second bullet in the middle of the page on the "Moving Assistance Program" label.

HACLA does not endorse this service

You can view property listings online at: www.hacla.org. Click on the "Property Listings" link on the right-hand side of the main page. You can also call the toll free phone number at 1-877-428-8844 to receive printed listings.

If you suspect anyone of committing fraud, please call (800) 461-9330, or file a report online at: www.mysafeworkplace.com. Your name will remain anonymous.