

State & Local Preferences
(Established by HACSB Board of Commissioners)

- Veterans Preference
- Displacement by governmental action or natural disaster
- Residency Preference for applicants living or working in South Santa Barbara County
- Not currently receiving housing assistance
- Victims of domestic violence, involuntarily displaced
- Terminal illness, life expectancy of less than two years

Federal Income Limits

In order to receive housing assistance under any program operated by the City of Santa Barbara Housing Authority, an applicant's gross annual income cannot exceed 80% of Santa Barbara's median income, as indicated by the "Low Income Limits" below:

Annual Income Limits	
Household Size	Low Income Limit
1	\$43,600
2	\$49,800
3	\$56,050
4	\$62,250
5	\$67,250
6	\$72,200
7	\$77,200
8	\$82,150

Note to Applicants: All changes to your income, address and family composition must be reported to HACSB in writing.

Our Mission

The Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara is dedicated to providing safe, decent and quality affordable rental housing to eligible persons with limited incomes, through a variety of federal, state, local and private resources. Our goal is to provide this housing within an environment that fosters the advancement of low income families from a position of dependency to one of self sufficiency.

A Call To Action

Today, HACSB helps provide a home to more than 3000 families through our public housing, rental subsidy and voucher programs. We have approximately 5,000 households needing assistance on our various waiting lists. This is because there are many more families eligible than can be assisted with the money the government provides. The gap between the cost of housing and what families can afford to pay remains one of the most serious challenges we face as a community and as a nation.

What YOU can do

Whether you are an applicant on our waiting lists, a participant in our housing programs, or just a member of the community, HACSB needs your help during this housing crisis. Change takes place at the legislative level. **Now, more than ever, we encourage you to contact The White House and your local legislative representatives to keep them aware of the problem and the need.**

Congresswoman Lois Capps
23rd Congressional District
101 W. Anapamu St., Ste. C - Santa Barbara, CA 93101
805-730-1710
www.house.gov/capps
(Will forward your correspondence to The White House on your behalf)

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
312 N. Spring St., Ste. 1748 - Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-894-5000
<http://boxer.senate.gov/>

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
11111 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 915
Los Angeles, CA 90025
310-914-7300
<http://feinstein.senate.gov/>



**AN APPLICANT'S
GUIDE TO THE
WAITING LISTS:**

Things you should know



Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara
808 Laguna Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: 805-965-1071
Fax: 805-564-7041
www.hacsb.org



Now that you've applied for housing assistance from the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara (HACSB), you probably have a few questions. To begin with, your newly submitted application is scanned and entered into our computer system, and your name placed on the appropriate waiting list(s). A confirmation letter is then sent to you, notifying you that your application has been received, as well as which waiting lists your name has been placed on. There are several factors which influence how long a person may have to wait before receiving housing assistance:

1. Date & time application is submitted:

Applications are prioritized according to date and time.

2. Preferences: The more preferences that apply to you the higher on the waiting lists you will be (*refer to back of brochure for descriptions*).

3. Funding Availability: HACSB is normally 100% leased up in all assisted housing programs and there is little or no new monies coming from the Federal government to buy or build new housing or provide more Section 8 Vouchers. Therefore, the wait for applicants is much longer due to the fact we can only offer housing assistance when it becomes available (i.e. someone no longer needs housing assistance).

The combination of these factors determines how long it will take, and who is next, to receive housing assistance. It is important to remember that while an applicant may have an urgent need for housing and may qualify for preferences, they will still have to wait until their name is reached. This is because there are thousands of households on our waiting lists and demand for housing far exceeds supply. Unfortunately, assisted housing is not an entitlement in the United States.

Frequently asked questions...

I've just submitted my application, how long will I have to wait for help?

There is not a simple answer to this question because an applicant's wait will depend upon the preferences they qualify for, date of their application in addition to availability of housing units/assistance. In general, an applicant's wait for assisted housing is usually several years.

Where am I on the waiting lists?

HACSB does not give applicants a waiting list number. This is because your position fluctuates as new applicants are added and others are taken off the waiting lists.

Do I have to be a City resident to be assisted?

No. However, HACSB does give a preference to those persons on the waiting list who are living or working in South Santa Barbara County (i.e. Gaviota to Carpinteria).

I am a person with disabilities, will I get housing more quickly?

Persons with disabilities will be housed before non-disabled single persons under the age of 62.

I am a veteran of the U.S. Military. Will this help me obtain housing?

Yes. With proper verification, a veteran, spouse or widow of a veteran, will be granted an additional preference point.

Do you have emergency housing or emergency assistance?

No. Federally subsidized housing is not an entitlement program like other forms of public assistance. That is, even though you may be eligible for and in need of housing assistance, there are not enough funds to assist everyone who qualifies. This is why the waiting lists and the wait are so long.

How old must I be to live in your senior housing?

62 years of age or older.

I have a landlord who is willing to rent to me under the Section 8 program, can I get a Voucher immediately?

HACSB cannot give a preference to applicants who are "in-place", meaning they are living in a unit where the owner accepts Section 8.

I'm homeless, can you help me?

Unfortunately, HACSB does not have emergency housing or subsidy available. We will refer you to agencies in town that provide emergency shelter and assistance, and you may also apply for our El Carrillo project.

My family is soon to be evicted, how can you help?

Again, unfortunately, HACSB does not operate emergency housing or emergency subsidy. We were established to provide long term affordable rental housing. Additionally, we are required to provide housing assistance to families according to local and federal preferences, and date of application.