



## Preferences

The number of preferences that apply to your application will affect your position on the waiting lists (refer to your applicant portal and application for descriptions)

## Income Limits

In order to receive assistance under any program operated by HACSB, an applicant must meet the current program income limits. For more information, visit our website at [www.hacsb.org/income-limits](http://www.hacsb.org/income-limits).

## Note to Applicants

Should your personal information change, including income, address, and household composition you must notify our offices in writing or through your applicant portal (changes not accepted by phone), so that we can correctly update your application.

Failure to update your information could result in your application being cancelled.

To check the status of your application with HACSB, contact us directly at (805) 965 – 1071 or visit our offices (808 Laguna Street, Santa Barbara), Monday through Friday, from 8:00 – 10:00 AM, except on Wednesdays.

## Our Mission

To create safe, affordable, and quality housing opportunities for families and individuals while promoting self-sufficiency and neighborhood revitalization.

## A Call to Action

Today, HACSB assists thousands of households in our community. Additionally, there are thousands of households on our various waiting lists that are in need of assistance. 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.

## What YOU Can Do

Whether you are an applicant on our waiting lists, a participant in our housing programs, or just a community member, we need your help during this housing crisis! Now, more than ever, we encourage you to contact your representatives to advocate for more funding and affordable housing in our community.

To contact your  
local representatives, visit:  
[www.housingsantabarbara.org/  
housing-advocacy](http://www.housingsantabarbara.org/housing-advocacy)



# Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara

## Applicant's Guide to the Waiting Lists



808 Laguna Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 897 – 1044  
[www.hacsb.org](http://www.hacsb.org)

## Now that you've applied...

Now that you've applied for housing assistance you probably have a few questions.

To begin with, your newly submitted application is processed and your name placed on the appropriate waiting list(s). There are several factors which influence how long a person may have to wait before receiving housing assistance:

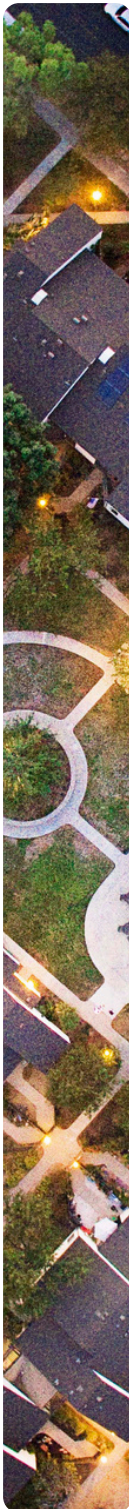
**Date & Time** - Applications are prioritized according to date and time submitted.

**Preferences** - The number of preferences that apply to your application will affect your position on the waiting lists (refer to your applicant portal and application for descriptions)

**Funding Availability** - HACSB is currently 100% leased up in all assisted housing programs and there is little or no new funding for additional assistance. Therefore, the wait for applicants is much longer due to the fact that we can only offer housing assistance when it becomes available.

The combination of these factors determines when an applicant will 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, because there are thousands of households on our waiting lists and demand for housing far exceeds supply.



## 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, because your position fluctuates as new applicants are added and others are taken off the waiting lists. To check the status of your applications, contact us directly at (805) 965 - 1071 or visit our offices (808 Laguna Street, Santa Barbara), Monday through Friday, except on Wednesdays from 8:00 - 10:00 AM.

***Do I have to be a Santa Barbara 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 nondisabled 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.

***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. You can apply for our El Carrillo project. Also, we will refer you to agencies in town that provide emergency shelter and assistance.

***Do you have emergency housing or emergency assistance?*** No, federally subsidized housing is not an entitlement program like other forms of public assistance. 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.

***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.

***Where can I find information about additional local housing agencies and supportive services?*** The Santa Barbara Affordable Housing Resource Guide is a collection of local resources. To download the guide, visit [www.housingsantabarbara.org/resource-guide](http://www.housingsantabarbara.org/resource-guide).