



## Public Housing

**Phone:** 910.253.2222 / **Fax:** 910.253.3082

**Email:** [housing@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:housing@brunswickcountync.gov)

**Location:** Government Center Building B  
60 Government Center Drive NE, Bolivia, NC 28422

# SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITING LIST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

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Brunswick County Public Housing Agency will open the Housing Choice Voucher Program Waiting list on March 11, 2024, and close on March 25, 2024. A lottery system will be used to select individuals to be placed on the waiting list to avoid long lines and to provide equal opportunity for all applicants. To learn more about the Housing Choice Voucher Program, application process, and lottery system, see the details below or visit [brunswickcountync.gov/public-housing](https://brunswickcountync.gov/public-housing).

## What Is the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program? (HCVP)

The HCVP is the federal program for assisting very low-income households to afford decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing in the private rental market. Since this housing assistance is tenant-based, families choose their housing. Participants in the HCVP pay approximately 30% of their gross income to their landlords and Brunswick County Public Housing Authority (BCPHA) pays the balance directly to the landlord.

## How Does a Person Apply for the HCVP?

Due to high demand, the HCVP wait list is usually closed. When most of the names on the waiting list have been utilized, BCPHA opens the waiting list to the public through a lottery.

## How Does the Lottery Work?

The lottery is conducted online, with lottery entries only accepted for a limited period through the BCPHA HCVP lottery website at <https://waitlistcheck.com/NC788>

After the period during which lottery entries are accepted, a random computer draw will take place from among all the entries. The lottery entries chosen in this random computer draw will be placed on the waiting list in the order in which they are drawn. Duplicate entries are eliminated, so no one has more than one chance of being selected. Each household member aged 18 or older may submit an entry.

## Does It Matter When I Enter the Lottery?

No. The order in which entries are received will not affect your chance of being selected for the waiting list or your placement on it. Every completed entry submitted according to the website's instructions will be entered into the lottery. Selection will be based on a random computerized drawing, so all applicants have an equal chance of being selected for the list.

## What If I Don't Own a Computer?

Any computer with internet access can be used, whether it belongs to a relative, friend or caseworker. You can also use any available computer at public locations such as the [Brunswick County library branches](#).

- [Southport Branch - Margaret and James Harper, Jr. Library](#) / 109 W. Moore St., Southport, 28461
- [Shalotte Branch - Rourk Library](#) / 5068 Main St., Shallotte, 28470
- [Leland Branch - Leland Library](#) / 487 Village Road, Leland, 28451
- [Oak Island Branch - G.V. Barbee, Sr. Library](#) / 8200 East Oak Island Drive, Oak Island, 28465
- [Carolina Shores Branch - Southwest Brunswick Library](#) / 9400 Ocean Highway West, Carolina Shores, 28467

If you do not have access to a computer, you can pick up a paper application in the lobby of the Brunswick County DSS Building B, or you can call and ask for an application to be mailed to you. All paper applications need to be received by our office no later than 5 p.m. on March 25, 2024.

## What Are the Qualifications Needed to Receive a Housing Voucher?

To be eligible, households must meet the following criteria:

- Must not exceed current very low-income limits.
- Household members 18 years old and over must clear a criminal background check. Any drug-related or violent criminal activity in the past three years could make you ineligible.
- Must not owe a debt to BCPHA or any other housing authority.
- Must not have any previous terminations within the past 3 years from any HUD-assisted housing such as Section 8 or Public Housing.

## What Are Current Income Limits for the Voucher Program?

Number of People in Household	Maximum Income Limit
1 Person	\$31,000
2 People	\$35,500
3 People	\$40,000
4 People	\$44,000
5 People	\$48,000
6 People	\$51,550
7 People	\$55,100
8 People	\$58,650

## What Information Will I Need to Complete My Entry?

Lottery entrants will need to provide their date of birth, social security number, address, and general income information on the entry forms. It will also be helpful to include the date of birth, social security numbers, and income information for other household members.

## How Long Will It Take Me to Complete the Entry Form?

About 5-15 minutes, depending on the number of family members in the household.

### **Once On the Waiting List, Will I Automatically Receive A Voucher?**

**No.** Placement on the waiting list does not guarantee that you will receive a voucher. As vouchers become available, names will be taken from the top of the waiting list and interviews will be scheduled to determine if the applicant is eligible for the HCVP. Once qualified, those households will receive a voucher.

### **Can A Single Person Qualify for Housing Assistance or Is This Just for Families?**

Yes. A single person is considered a family.

### **If I Have a Job, Can I Qualify For The HCVP?**

Yes. You can be employed and still qualify. Also, you do not have to be employed to qualify but income is required.

### **If I Was Terminated from The HCVP Or Public Housing, Can I Enter the Lottery?**

Yes, however depending on the date of termination and the reason for termination, you may be ineligible to receive assistance.

### **If I Don't Live in Brunswick County, Can I Enter the Lottery?**

Yes. Residency in Brunswick County is not required for entry in the lottery or eligibility for the HCVP. However, those who are not residents of Brunswick County must lease a unit in Brunswick County for the first year they are in the program.

### **How Will the Lottery Select Entries for the Waiting List?**

After the lottery closes, a random computer draw will select 250 entries to place on the waiting list.

### **What Happens If My Entry Is Picked in The Lottery?**

The BCPHA HCVP will send letters to all the selected entrants advising them that their names have been placed on the waiting list.

### **What Happens If My Entry Is Not Picked in the Lottery?**

If your entry is not picked in the lottery, your name will not be placed on the waiting list. You are welcome to enter the next lottery.

### **How Long Will I Wait to Be Qualified as Eligible?**

It is impossible to estimate the length of time it will take for an applicant on the waiting list to be called in for qualification.