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COVID-19 UPDATE:

TEMPORARY CHANGES to Tenant Selection Policies

Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) wants to make sure that all of our families can access our housing programs safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. RRHA is making two temporary changes to the tenant selection policies for our public housing and voucher programs. These changes will make it easier for families to get housing assistance during this difficult time. Below is a list of changes RRHA will make to our tenant selection policies. These policies are for RRHA's public housing program and our Housing Choice Voucher program.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.

If you sent RRHA an application for a voucher or for public housing, this might affect your rights.

1. Response to initial notification.

When you get to the top of the wait list for a voucher or public housing, RRHA will mail a letter to the address you put on your application. During the pandemic, we will give you extra time to respond to this letter. RRHA will give you 30 days to respond to this letter and tell us you are still interested in RRHA housing. If you don't respond in 30 days, RRHA will try to reach you another way, like phone or email. If you do not respond after another 15 days, RRHA may take your name off the wait list.

2. Submitting documents.

Once you get the letter and tell us you are still interested in RRHA housing, RRHA will send you a list of "eligibility verification" papers. RRHA needs these papers to make sure you meet all the rules for the public housing or voucher program. We know it might be hard to get all of your paperwork together during the pandemic. Because of this, we are **getting rid of all deadlines** to turn this paperwork back in. We want you to have all the time you need to work on this paperwork. However, you **MUST** stay in contact with RRHA while you work on your paperwork. If we contact you for an update about your paperwork, you must respond within five business days. If you do not respond in five business days, we may take your name off the wait list.

3. Oral briefing.

If you are given a voucher during the COVID-19 crisis, RRHA will not give you an in-person "oral briefing" about the program. Instead, RRHA might send you a letter that explains the program. We might also explain the program to you over the phone or through the Internet. **This change affects HCVP ONLY.**

4. Waiting Lists.

During the COVID-19 crisis, RRHA may not publish notices about opening or closing some of our waiting lists in the newspaper. RRHA might open or close a waiting list for one of our "project-based" voucher programs *without* putting a notice in the newspaper. **This change DOES NOT affect the public housing waiting list or the regular HCVP waiting list.**