



## **SCOTT COUNTY CDA CURRENT HOUSING PARTICIPANTS – TENANT BASED FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What is a voucher?**

The rent assistance that is received from the Housing Choice Voucher Program is called a "Voucher." Vouchers stay with the tenant and not with the housing unit, meaning that this allows households to choose a rental unit from the private rental market as long as the property owner is willing to accept the rental assistance.

### **What are the income limits for a Section 8 Voucher?**

[Click here](#) to visit the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) website to learn more about income limits.

### **How much does the Housing Choice Voucher Participant pay for rent each month?**

Program participants pay a minimum of 30% of their monthly adjusted income toward rent.

### **How do I get a Housing Choice Voucher (also called Section 8 Voucher)?**

The process begins by applying at a housing authority (such as the Scott County CDA) when the waiting list for the program is open. Unfortunately, waiting lists open infrequently because each housing authority has a limited amount of vouchers to administer. It is a good idea to sign up for automatic e-mail alerts from [Housinglink.org](http://Housinglink.org) so you get a notification when a waiting list opens. Also, visit our waiting list resource page [here](#) for more information about Scott County CDA rental assistance programs.

### **How much does the CDA pay for rent each month?**

The rent assistance provided is the difference between the participants 30% rent portion and the contract rent from the property owner.

### **How do you report income changes?**

If your household changes, you are required to report this in writing within 10 days to the CDA. Please complete the [Household Change Form](#) and mail or fax it to us.

Scott County CDA  
323 Naumkeag St.  
Shakopee, MN 55379

Fax:  
952-496-2852

### **How do I add or remove a household member?**

If your household changes, you are required to report this in writing within 10 days to the CDA. Please complete the [Household Change Form](#) and mail or fax it to us.

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323 Naumkeag St.  
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### **How many bedrooms will I qualify for?**

Your voucher size equals the number of bedrooms your household qualifies for and it is based on your household size and/or approved accommodations. The CDA will determine this at your initial and/or annual recertification.

### **What do I do if I want to move out of Scott County or transfer to another unit within Scott County?**

If you want to move you must give a two month (60-days) notice in writing.

### **Does the unit need to pass an inspection?**

Yes, all units must pass an initial and annual inspection based on the federally established Housing Quality Standards. Here are two helpful links, one for the [Inspection Checklist](#) from HUD and the [Inspection Information Form](#).

### **How do I determine who my caseworker is?**

Please contact the CDA office at [\(952\) 402-9022](tel:952-402-9022) to find out who your caseworker is. Our hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 pm and in the summer months our Friday hours are 8:00 am to 11:45 am.

### **What is Fair Housing?**

You can read more about Fair Housing Resources [here](#).

### **What does "Reasonable Accommodation" mean?**

A reasonable accommodation is a change in rules, policies, practices, or services. The change is necessary to afford a person with a disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling. If you or a household member have a disability that is impacting your housing situation, please contact your housing specialist for further guidance. Our phone number is [\(952\) 402-9022](tel:952-402-9022) and our hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:15 pm and in the summer months our Friday hours are 8:00 am to 11:45 am.

### **What if I am homeless or facing eviction and need emergency rental assistance?**

We do not offer emergency housing but there are resources that we recommend. Since the CDA's programs operate off a waiting list which may be lengthy, you should contact other resources for assistance below:

- [Homeless Coordinated Entry](#)
- [CAP Agency Housing Options](#)
- [HousingLink Waiting List](#)
- [Emergency Assistance](#)

### **What if I am a survivor of domestic violence?**

Please call 911 if you have immediate concerns over your safety. If domestic violence is impacting your current housing situation, [click here](#) to learn about your rights, and call your Housing Specialist for further guidance at [\(952\) 402-9022](tel:952-402-9022). Our hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 pm and in the summer months our Friday hours are 8:00 am to 11:45 am

Southern Valley Alliance is a local organization with resources and information, and we invite you to visit their website [here](#).