

What Cost is Involved?

Veterans are responsible to pay:

- 30-40% of their gross monthly income directly to their landlords.
- First, last month of rent, security deposits and utilities along with any up-front fees are the responsibility of the Veteran.
- Incidental and monthly expenses will need to be considered, such as: food, transportation, home furnishings, phone, cable, Internet, household supplies.

Some community resources may be available to assist with these expenses.

INCOME GUIDELINES

May vary between counties and municipalities



For more information please contact:

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Call Toll Free to our Call Center at (800) 893-1522 or
413-584-4040

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Our offices are open

Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

VETERANS

HUD-VASH PROGRAM



U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Central Western Massachusetts
Healthcare System

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans
**Supported Housing
Program for
Homeless Veterans**

In Partnership With

Northampton Housing Authority
Berkshire Housing Development Corp.
RCAP Solutions
Worcester Housing Authority
Wayfinders



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

What is the HUD-VASH Program?

The HUD-VASH program is collaboration between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to assist homeless Veterans and their immediate families find and maintain affordable, safe, and permanent housing in the community.

The program is designed to improve each Veteran's overall health and to enhance the Veteran's ability to remain stable, housed and integrated in their local community. A key component of the program is case management provided by VA Social Workers. Program participants formulate treatment plans with their social workers and receive ongoing support to attain their goals. Referrals are also made to additional community-based supports.

Background Information

The HUD-VASH Program was started as a nationwide, limited-scale program in 1992, to address the needs of homeless Veterans with mental illness and, or, substance abuse. In 2008, the program was expanded to primarily address the needs of chronically homeless Veterans. It included all homeless Veterans as the target population. The criteria broadened allowing Veterans with physical disabilities in need of case management assistance. The program also provides supportive permanent housing for Veterans with dependents.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

The HUD/VASH program is intended for Veterans who:

- are eligible for VA medical care
- are currently homeless; priority is given to those who have been homeless for a year or more or have had four episodes of homelessness in the last three years
- have an identified need for case management

Other factors that are considered for eligibility:

- have a history of medical, mental health and or substance abuse concerns that are now stabilized
- ready for independent housing in the community but need ongoing case management services to maintain it
- have income to pay for their housing
- motivated to improve the quality of life by working with a VA case manager and actively participating in treatment to address needs.
- Veterans on the lifetime registry for sex offenders are not eligible



How are Veterans referred?

An application will need to be completed by the Veteran's current provider. Providers may include, but are not limited to, case managers, nurses, therapist or Veteran's Service Officers.

Documents required with application:

- DD214
- Social Security Cards for household
- Birth Certificates for household
- Benefits /Employment Letter
- Photo ID

How are Veterans Admitted to HUD/VASH?

The Admission Team will assess the Veteran's eligibility and need for long term case management. If the Veteran is admitted to the program a case manager will be assigned to begin working with the Veteran on a treatment plan and connection to services.

Veterans who refuse VA case management services may lose their housing choice voucher. If a referred Veteran is found to be ineligible or inappropriate for the program, referrals to other resources will be made.

What is the role of the Case Manager?

- Work with Veterans to develop treatment plans
- Assist with voucher application and housing search
- Coordinate access to needed services
- Provide limited counseling services or referrals when more in-depth support is needed
- Conduct home visits
- Facilitate peer support group
- Monitor progress and follow up as needed