

CalWORKs Housing Support Program

<u>Subsidy</u>	<u>Month</u>
100%	1
90%	2
80%	3
60%	4
50%	5
40%	6
None	7



*Helping low income families
achieve housing stability*

The CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) can assist with:

- Move in expenses such as fees and deposits. Deposits can cover utilities, pets, keys, and cleaning.
- Rental subsidies in accordance with local Fair Market Rent and HSP calculation. Ask your Social Worker for a Fair Market Rent ZIP List.
- Case management services to support long-term housing stability.



County of Sacramento
Dept. of Human Assistance
Information Line
(916) 874-3100

The Sacramento County Housing Support Program (HSP) is a service provided to DHA customers enrolled in CalWORKs who are experiencing homelessness. HSP will cover move in costs and limited term rental subsidies. Customers enrolled in HSP should find housing that works best for their household. DHA staff will support the housing search and rental process.

What HSP is:

- Financial assistance to get a household moved in to a permanent housing option of their choice.
- Supportive services to help a household identify potential barriers to finding and maintaining stable housing. Resources and support will be offered to address these challenges.

What HSP is not:

- HSP is not a voucher program such as the Housing Choice Voucher (formerly section 8).
- HSP is not a housing location program. The customer is ultimately responsible for locating housing that works best for their family. DHA staff will support these efforts and provide housing leads when possible.

What to tell potential housing providers:

HSP provides financial assistance for customers when they move into a rental unit of their choice. HSP will cover the deposits and fees needed for move in and assist with rent payments for a limited term if needed. Property owners will not likely know what HSP is and really, they don't need to understand the program until they ask, "How will you be paying for the deposits and the rent?" Some housing providers will be open to DHA as a third party payer and some will not.

Tips for success:

- Search for rental units through various channels. Craigslist is just one way to find housing and sometimes opportunities on Craigslist turn out to be scams. Ask friends and family if they know of any rental units in your desired area. Stop by apartment complexes on your way to and from your routine destinations to see if there are any openings. Check in with property management companies.
- Be open to rental units outside of your desired area. There may be something just for you a block or two away.
- Consider shared housing with a close friend or a relative. Housing costs are on the rise and shared housing is a good approach to long term housing stability.
- Maintain regular communication with potential housing providers. Make sure they have your current contact information in case something opens up. Be professional and courteous.
- Know your credit score. If you have little to no credit or bad credit, it is a good idea to try to secure a co-signer immediately. This will provide more opportunities for you to secure housing.
- Understand what the property managers consider the minimum requirements. Find out if you are a suitable match before you file an application.
- Contact DHA staff immediately once you have secured a rental property. In this housing market, you need to move fast to ensure you get the desired rental unit.