

BRAP Partial Wait List Policy and FAQs

Due to the unprecedented demand for the Bridging Rental Assistance Program (BRAP), we have no choice but to institute a partial waitlist on new application submissions, effective **February 3, 2024**.

In order to ensure stability for those already on the program, as well as ensuring continued availability for the most vulnerable populations based on BRAP's intended priorities, the program will be limiting new vouchers to those individuals that qualify under **Priority 1- Psychiatric Hospitalization or PNMI** or **Priority 2- Incarceration** only.

Applicants that are living in a homeless situation (Priority 3) or would require a waiver, are free to still apply, but if deemed eligible, will be placed on a waitlist, and prioritized by length of time homeless. After a period of time, as resources become available, the program will award vouchers from the waitlist.

What are BRAP Priorities

Priority 1: Individuals who have discharged from an inpatient setting or residential treatment programs (Mental Health PNMI)

Priority 2: Individuals who have been discharged from a correctional facility or have been adjudicated through a Mental Health Treatment Court

Priority 3: Individuals who are literally homeless as defined by HUD

What is a Partial Waitlist?

A partial waitlist is where the program will continue to accept applications, but we can only award vouchers to those that fit the highest program priorities.

Effective February 3rd, we will continue to accept applications for everyone, however we can only primarily award those that come from Priority 1 or 2 situations.

If, once the program has stabilized and we have available resources, the program may be able to award a Priority 3 application, the name(s) of the individual(s), will be pulled from our Waitlist & Prioritization Spreadsheet based on the Length of Time homeless, as determined by their submitted application.

BRAP agencies will continue to accept all applications.

If the application is incomplete or missing documentation, the LAA will communicate with the applicant or their provider to complete the application.

If the application is for Priority 3, the LAA will also notify the applicant or their provider that there is a waitlist in place, and they are still free to re-submit, but if acceptable, will be placed on the waitlist.

When the Application is deemed eligible

If the application is a **Priority 1** or **Priority 2** and determined to be eligible and complete, the program will award the applicant a voucher and the LAA will send them an award letter.

OR

If the application is for a **Priority 3** and determined to be eligible and complete, program will add the applicant to the waitlist and the LAA will send them a letter informing them of the decision.

Waitlist Maintenance

The CAA will monitor the waitlist weekly and the LAA will follow-up with each waitlisted individual once they have been on the waitlist for at least one hundred twenty (120) days.

The LAA will determine if the person wishes to remain on the wait list or has found another housing resource, and will update the applicant's file with any new information, including contact information.

If the LAA is unable to contact the applicant, after 3 failed attempts, the LAA will remove the individual from the waitlist.

Rent Increases and Payment Standards

Rent Increases should be limited to those with the greatest need, and LAAs will negotiate with landlords to get the lowest possible rent.

LAA should follow the published payment standards.

Upgrade Requests

Upgrade requests will be limited to only upgrades that are medically essential or for necessary additions to the household, such as children.

Look Time

All awardees will be given up to one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date they were awarded to look for unit.

Awarded individuals that were awarded before February 3rd will be given their full look time of one hundred twenty (120) days from the date they were awarded to locate a unit and submit an RFT.

Extension Requests

The Awarded Voucher Holder will have 120 days to look for a unit. If, at the end of that period they are unable to locate a unit, they will need to re-apply.

Applications in Process at Effective Date

For those applications that were received by the effective date that this waitlist went into effect, the LAA will continue in good faith and complete the application.