

BRAP Resource Pause FAQs

Due to the unprecedented demand for the Bridging Rental Assistance Program (BRAP), OBH has instituted a pause on new awards, effective **March 24, 2025**. This pause took the place of the partial wait-list that was instituted the year before.

This pause will allow OBH and Shalom House to reassess the number of available rental assistance slots and come into alignment with the allocation of funding, while continuing to provide assistance to those already housed on the program. The situation will continue to be monitored by regularly evaluating trends and funding availability. As resources become available, the program will reinstitute awarding resources according to program priorities.

What is a Pause?

The program stopped awarding new rental assistance for all individuals and priorities, effective the date of this document.

How is a Pause different than a Waitlist?

In a **waitlist**, agencies will review submitted applications, approve them, and the individuals will be added to a waitlist, which records their name, priority, the length of time in that priority, and the date they were added. When the program has resources, a name is taken from the waitlist based on certain criteria and Shalom will ask for updated information. As long as the individual remains eligible, they will be awarded a resource.

In a **pause**, agencies will not accept or review applications when they receive them, instead they will notify the applicant that their application cannot be accepted and for them to apply at a later date. When the program has resources, OBH and Shalom will lift the pause and begin accepting new applications.

****Applications submitted during the pause will not be held by the agency for later review. It would be your responsibility to re-submit your application if you are still eligible.*

Extension Requests for those In Between Units

Each participant that moves out of a unit will be given **30 days** to find a new unit. No requests for extensions will be granted.

Security Deposits

Each participant may be eligible for a single security deposit up to one-month contract rent.

Additional Security Deposits for new units for those that have moved out of a unit may be granted as long as the deposit for the previous unit was **returned in full**.

If, at the time of move-out from a unit, the security deposit is held by the landlord for past due rent or damages above wear and tear, the individual will not be eligible for another security deposit. In these cases, the participant will have to work with their provider to find alternative methods of procuring a deposit, such as local landlord incentive programs.

Rent Increases and Payment Standards

During this time, all Rent Increase requests shall be denied.

No waivers will be granted to go above the currently published payment standards for any reason.

ONLY Rent change requests that are due to the change of responsibility of utilities being paid, or due to a change regarding a reasonable accommodation can be approved, as long as the change still remains within Payment Standards.

Upgrade Requests

Upgrade requests will be limited to only those that are medically essential or for necessary additions to the household, such as children, and only when age/gender appropriate.

All upgrade requests will need to be made in writing to the LAA assigned to the individuals and must include supporting documentation as applicable. (i.e. note from a qualified professional if the need is based on medical necessity and must state so.)

The LAA may deny any such request that does not fall within the category of medically necessary.

Evictions

Any participant that is evicted from their unit for cause, not complying with landlord or program requests, damaging the unit, or for criminal behavior will be terminated from the program.

Vacating or Absence from Unit

Any participant that vacates, or is absent from their unit for more than 30 days, may be terminated from the program.

Terminations

Any participant that is non-compliant with program rules, or requests made by program staff may be terminated from the program.