

Unemployment & Career Centers Program Name: Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)

Agency: Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), Division of Public Housing and Rental Assistance Description: State funded program that provides both tenant- and project-based rental subsidies (vouchers) to low-income families and individuals. The voucher makes up the difference between what the landlord charges and what the tenant can pay.

Website: www.mass.gov/hed/housing/stabilization/residential-assistance-for-families-in-transition

Eligibility: An applicant is eligible if their net household income does not exceed 80% of Area Median Income (AMI). The local housing agency will also screen for CORI. At admission, a household's total assets may not exceed 1.5 times the gross household income or \$25,000, whichever is greater (cars and 401K do not count as assets).

Availability/Limitations:

The vouchers are divided into two categories – mobile and project-based. Mobile vouchers can be used by the participant in any eligible unit throughout the state: the participant is responsible for finding a unit. Project-based vouchers, however, are attached to a specific housing unit. A participant receives the benefit of an MRVP subsidy only when occupying that particular housing unit.

Note: Unlike EA, a household of one or more adults without children could be considered a “family” for MRVP purposes.

Immigrants: There are no citizenship or immigration status requirements for MRVP.

Amount:

The value of the subsidy depends on income, the number of bedrooms and the geographic area. MRVP "mobile" voucher holders pay between 30-40% of household income as rent. Project based voucher holders pay 35-40% of income as rent (40% if heat is included in rent).

How to Apply:

Visit Boston Housing Authority at 52 Chauncy Street, Boston, Ma 02111; phone:1-618-988-4000
Apply online at: www.mass.gov/hed/housing/ph-manage/public-housing-applications-and-documentation

To see if waiting list is open locally, click below; applications may be had where waiting lists are open
portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts/ma

Linked Services? A household may receive HomeBASE funds while participating in MRVP, so long as those funds are not used as a rental stipend.

Right to Appeal: Yes, applicants who are determined ineligible for MRVP are entitled to request a private conference with the Administering Agency (AA) to discuss its finding as long as they appeal within 14 days of denial of eligibility. Following a private conference, the AA must issue a written decision. The applicant may then request reconsideration by the AA's board or other equivalent body.

Retroactive? No.

Unemployment Insurance & Workman's Comp

