

Contact <u>HousingChoiceVoucher@dca.ga.gov</u>

The Housing Choice Voucher Program, also known as Section 8, is part of Georgia's comprehensive housing program administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). This is a tenant-based rental assistance program that assists extremely low and low income individuals and families rent safe, decent, and affordable dwelling units in the private rental market. The program was created by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 and is funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The goals of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) are to:

- 1. Provide improved living conditions for extremely low and low income individuals and families while maintaining their rent payments at an affordable level;
- 2. Affirmatively further fair housing for individuals and families;
- 3. Promote freedom of housing choice and integrate lower income and minority persons into mainstream society;
- 4. Provide decent, safe, and affordable housing for eligible participants; and
- 5. Provide an incentive to private property owners to rent to lower income persons by offering timely subsidy payments.

The Department of Community Affairs provides the subsidy payment directly to the landlord on behalf of the program participant. The amount of the subsidy is based primarily upon the participant's income. DCA administers the program in 149 of Georgia's 159 counties through regional offices located around the State. The remaining 10 counties that DCA does not have jurisdiction are served by those county's housing authority.

Housing Choice Voucher Program Funding

The Housing Choice Voucher Program is funded totally by federal funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. No State appropriations are used in the administration of this program.

Families who meet program and income eligibility are selected from DCA's wait list when funding and vouchers are available. Once a family is selected for a Housing Choice Voucher, they are required to attend an informational briefing to learn about the program rules and of their obligations to the program. When the family receives their voucher, they are responsible for finding a housing unit that meets their voucher size. Once the family finds a unit that meets their voucher standard and the unit passes HUD's Housing Quality Standards, DCA will begin the subsidy payment, on behalf of the family, directly to the landlord.

For wait list information, PLEASE CALL 1-888-858-6085.

For more information on the Housing Choice Voucher Program, please call 1-800-359-4663.

Housing - Section 8

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- 1. If you use Baldwin Count, GA Section 8 or similar terms, you will find the information on-line for Baldwin Co. is totally WRONG. Here's the correct information. https://dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing, the rental assistance link.
- Section 8 can take about 2 years to get, but it's worth it! Landlords are held to a higher standard than public housing. Privately-owned apartments/homes are subsidized by the government, and individuals with vouchers use these funds to pay their rent. In Baldwin County, there are privately-owned apartments (including Waterford Place), and lists are sent to those who are on the waiting list. To get on the list to be approved for a voucher, you must call 1-888-858-6085.
- 3. Baldwin County is covered by the office in Waycross, GA 500 Alice St., Waycross, GA 31501. Their local number is 912-285-6089, but don't call this number unless you want to speak to someone specifically.
- 4. To get on Section 8 YOU MUST CALL THE 1-888-858-6085 NUMBER. Follow the directions!

Please note: This information was correct in 2018, but it may have changed. The correct information may be available through the Milledgeville Housing Authority.