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Getting Started

Thank you for your interest in CHA's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program, a publicly funded program created by Congress as part of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 that provides rental assistance in the private market to eligible low-income families, the elderly and people with disabilities.

Through funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and in partnership with private property owners, the HCV Program offers a variety of housing opportunities for voucher holders and their families, including apartments, duplexes, condominiums, townhouses and single-family homes across Chicago's 77 communities.

While CHA's HCV Program is composed of about a dozen smaller programs, each with their own federal funding and target population, there are generally two "types" of vouchers.

- The most common is the tenant-based Housing Choice Voucher, where assistance is tied to the family and can be applied to any eligible and qualified unit on the private market.
- The other is the Project-Based Voucher, where assistance is tied to a property (or certain units within a property) and eligible participants are selected move in.

Regardless of their voucher type, HCV families contribute 30-40% of their income toward rent and utilities (some exceptions apply for families with little to no income), while CHA pays the remainder to the property owner as subsidy.

For a print-friendly overview of CHA's HCV Program, download the [HCV At a Glance Flyer](#) ([HCV en resumen](#)).

Take the next step! Click [here](#) to view your pathway to HCV Program success or [here](#) to view information on the PBV leasing process for developers and property owners of multi-unit rental buildings or portfolios.