



McHenry County Housing Authority

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WAITING LIST LOTTERY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please read carefully, as MCHA will not be able to provide assistance by telephone.

Q1. How can I submit an Application to enter the Waiting List Lottery?

MCHA will only accept waiting list lottery applications online. Visit <http://mchenry.pha-web.com/wlapplication.aspx> to fill out an online application 24 hours a day between 8:30 AM February 6, 2018 and 5:00 PM February 13, 2018. Applicants can use any computer, tablet or smart-phone with internet access to apply, including free computers at public libraries. Applicants needing a reasonable accommodation may submit a written request in advance of the waiting list lottery opening to allow time for processing. ([Click here to download a Reasonable Request Form and Certification](#)). All online applications must be submitted by the time the waiting list closed.

Q2. When will the lottery take place?

The lottery will be held on March 15, 2018. After that date, an applicant can look up their waiting list status on the "Waiting List Status" link on our website www.mchenrycountyhousing.org. Applicants whose names were selected in the lottery, will receive a postcard from MCHA.

Q3. Can I enter the lottery if I was terminated or withdrawn from the Program before?

Yes, you may enter the lottery if you were terminated or withdrawn from the Program, however you may not be eligible to receive a Housing Choice Voucher. If you are selected in the lottery and are put on the waiting list, eligibility for the program will only be determined at the time your name reaches the top of the waiting list.

Q4. If I have a job, can I still enter the lottery?

Yes, however income limits apply. Income limits for the program are on our website at www.mchenrycountyhousing.org. Eligibility for the program will be determined at the time your name reaches the top of the waiting list.

Q5. Can a public housing resident apply for the waiting list lottery?

Yes, a public housing resident may apply.

Q6. If I don't live in McHenry County, can I enter the lottery?

Yes, however McHenry County residents and people that work in McHenry County receive a priority over people that reside and work elsewhere. This priority will be evaluated when the applicant's name reaches the top of the waiting list.

Q7. Can I submit a paper application for the lottery?

All applications must be submitted online.



Q8. What if I don't own a computer?

Local libraries have computers available for patrons. You can also access the website on mobile phones with internet access.

Q9. Will my lottery application qualify me for the Program?

The application will qualify you to enter into a lottery for limited spots on the waiting list. Submission of an application to the waiting list lottery DOES NOT guarantee you will be on the waiting list.

Q10. How many entries can I submit?

You may only enter the waiting list one time. Multiple entries may disqualify all of your entries.

Q11. What happens if I go online to submit an application before February 6, 2018?

The website will not be active until 8:30 AM on February 6, 2018. After that time, it will be active 24/7 until February 13, 2018. There is no benefit in applying early, as the entries will be included in a random lottery. All applications must be received by February 13, 2018.

Q12. Does it matter when I enter the lottery?

There is no benefit in applying early, as the entries will be included in a random lottery. Entries will be chosen and placed on the waiting list randomly. All applications must be received by February 13, 2018.

Q13. What information will I need to complete my entry?

The application for the waiting list lottery is quite simple. It asks for the names, phone numbers, social security numbers and other basic information about you and all the members of your household.

Q14. How long will it take to complete the entry form?

The entry form can be completed within 5 minutes.

Q15. Does my entry guarantee me a place on the voucher waiting list?

Entry into the waiting list lottery does not guarantee that you will be placed on the waiting list.

Q16. Are there any other housing waiting lists open at MCHA?

Yes, please check our website www.mchenrycountyhousing.org and click on the tab "Open Waiting Lists"

Q17. How can a person apply for public housing?

Public housing differs from the Housing Voucher Program in that it is subsidized housing in units that MCHA owns. MCHA owns 23 units that are available for families large enough to qualify for a 3 bedroom unit. You can download a pre-application for Public Housing by clicking the "Open Waiting Lists" tab at www.mchenrycountyhousing.org.

Q18. What happens if I need help submitting my application?

The application for the waiting list is very simple and can be easily accessed by computer, tablet or mobile phone. If you need a reasonable accommodation for assistance to be able to submit the

application, you may submit a written request for assistance. ([Click here to download a Reasonable Request Form and Certification](#)).

Q19. How will the lottery winners be selected?

MCHA will use a computerized random drawing to select 2000 names to put on the waiting list. The names will be placed on the waiting list in a random order NOT first come, first served.

Q20. What happens if my entry is picked in the lottery?

MCHA will send postcards to people whose name is entered on the waiting list. If your name is entered on the waiting list, it does not guarantee that you would be eligible for immediate assistance. Depending on your placement on the waiting list, it may take several years to receive assistance. You will be contacted by MCHA when your name reaches the top of the waiting list. It is important to inform MCHA of any address changes while your name is on the waiting list, as MCHA only contacts applicants via mail.

Q21. What happens if my entry is not picked?

You will not receive any notice if your entry has not been selected for the waiting list. You can check your status by entering your information on the “Waiting List Lookup” tab on our website www.mchenrycountyhousing.org.