



COMMUNITY ACCESS TEAM (CAT) RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS

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The Community Access Team (CAT) helps people with disabilities stay in their homes and communities and out of nursing facilities or other institutions by making their homes affordable, safe and accessible.

- CAT Vouchers - State Housing Vouchers
- Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA)
- Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
- Medicaid Home Modifications
- Home Modification Tax Credit
- IRSS Home Inspection Program



Housing Voucher Overview

What are they?

- HUD-funded Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) are the primary, but not only, kind of housing voucher
- Subsidizes a portion of monthly rent and utilities
- Generally tenants pay 30-40% of the household's adjusted gross income
- Voucher payment is limited by the “Payment Standard” (based on Fair Market Rent for the area)
- Units must pass inspection
- Can be used in virtually any rental unit
- Operated by many different housing authorities (www.hud.gov/states/colorado/renting/hawebsites)
- DOLA/DOH subcontracts with 53 different local organizations to help administer our vouchers around CO



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Housing Voucher Overview

How do I get a housing voucher?

- Most voucher programs have long waiting lists, so they only open them for short periods
- Reach out to every housing authority (or DOH contractor) in the area that you live, or want to live
- Each HA will have their own process for advertising when their waiting lists are open for new applications
- Each HA will also have their own priorities

Once you are offered a voucher -

- Be prepared to provide backup documentation - ID + all income & assets for every household member
- Attend Voucher Orientation/Briefing
- Search quickly - you only have 120 days to find a unit (can make a Reasonable Accommodation request for more time)



CAT Vouchers

Started as a partnership with HCPF/Medicaid in support of a federal demonstration program, Money Follows the Person

- Originally called Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT)
- Became Targeted Case Management - Transition Coordination (TCM-TC) in 2019, & a permanent part of Medicaid's State Plan
- For people exiting institutions who are using TCM-TC services and are eligible for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers
- TCM-TC services help people plan their move out of the institution and into the community, including applying for a housing voucher and setting up in-home care
- TCM-TC services also include Housing Navigation services, to help people find a home to rent.



CAT Vouchers

Expanded to work with HCPF/Medicaid's Supported Living Services (SLS) Waiver Exception services

- Designed to reduce the waiting list for the Developmental Disability (DD) waiver
- For people enrolled in the SLS waiver who
 - Request an Emergency Enrollment to the DD waiver
 - Are homeless or at-risk of homelessness
 - Could be supported by SLS Exception services to continue to live independently
- Does not include Transition Coordination or Housing Navigation services
- To apply, contact your HCBS case management agency. Their designated Emergency Enrollment contact would send a request to HCPF's Emergency in-box



CAT Vouchers

Guided by Housing Choice Voucher regulations, but...

- State-funded
- No background checks for the member (do check live-in aides and anyone added to the household later)
- Do not have to be lawfully present in the U.S.
- More flexibility on vital documents to establish the members' identity and age
- Birth certificate not required (but strongly recommended), so long as photo ID displays age
- Can pay security deposits, up to two months of rent
- No minimum rent (HCV minimum is \$25/month)
- Cannot use the voucher outside of Colorado



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CAT Vouchers

To apply, contact your HCBS case management agency. Their designated Emergency Enrollment contact would send a request to HCPF's Emergency in-box with:

- Member name & SSN
- Case Manager name & contact info
- Release of Information for DOLA/DOH signed by member or guardian
- Statement explaining the member's housing situation, why they are homeless or at-risk
- Confirmation of enrollment in SLS
- Confirmation that the 100.2 Assessment is complete
- Confirmation that the Interdisciplinary Team has documented that independent living is feasible



CAT Vouchers

HCPF will send DOLA/DOH's CATeam an email referring the member to a voucher

Complete your application to DOLA/DOH's CATeam with:

- Application form (will be attached to referral email sent from HCPF to DOLA)
- Verification of Disability form (in the application)
- For every household member over 18:
 - Government issued & currently valid photo ID
 - Social Security card (or Proof of Order within last 60 days)
 - Proof of income & assets, dated within last 60 days
 - Birth certificates or Proof of Order (not required by DOLA, but strongly encouraged as many landlords ask for them)



Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA)

Federal grant for project-based subsidies in integrated housing

- 1st award helped create 91 units in 7 projects
- 2nd award will help create about 80 units

Serves

- Non-elderly disabled (under 62)
- Same priorities as CAT Vouchers

DOH's role

- Selects projects
- Refers eligible tenants & administers “vouchers”
- Monitors projects



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