

LOCAL PREFERENCES

- **Residency Preference:** For families who live, work, or have been hired to work in the jurisdiction.
- **Veteran's Preference:** This preference is available to current members of the U.S. Armed Forces, veterans, or surviving spouses of veterans.
- **Disability Preference:** This preference is extended to disabled persons or families with a disabled member as defined in this ACOP.
- **Working Preference:** Families where the head and/or spouse/cohead is employed. This preference is automatically extended to elderly or disabled families.
- **Educational/Training Participants:** This preference is available for families whose head and/or spouse/cohead are graduates of or active participants in educational and training programs designed to prepare the individual for the job market.
- **Graduates of Transitional Housing Programs:** Families who have graduated from transitional housing programs for homeless/substance abusers/victims of domestic abuse. Program length must be in excess of 180 days.
- **Victims of Domestic Violence:** The PHA will offer a preference to families that include victims of domestic violence. To qualify for this preference:

Actual or threatened physical violence directed against the applicant or the applicant's family by a spouse or other household member who lives in the unit with the family must have occurred within the past 6 months or be of a continuing nature.

The family must have been displaced as a result of fleeing violence in the home or they are currently living in a situation where they are being subjected to or victimized by violence in the home.

The applicant must certify that the abuser will not reside with the applicant unless the HA gives prior written approval.

- **Involuntary Displacement:** Involuntarily displaced applicants are applicants who have been involuntarily displaced and are not living in standard, permanent replacement housing, or will be involuntarily displaced within no more than six months from the date of preference status certification by the family.

Families are considered involuntarily displaced if they are required to vacate housing as a result of a disaster (fire, flood, earthquake, etc.) that has caused the unit to be uninhabitable.

In order to receive the displacement preference, applicants who have been displaced must not be living in "standard replacement housing."

Standard replacement housing is defined as housing that is decent, safe and sanitary according to local housing code, that is adequate for the family size according to HACC standards, and that the family is occupying pursuant to a written or oral lease or occupancy agreement.

Standard replacement housing does not include transient facilities, hotels, motels, temporary shelters, and (in the case of victims of domestic violence) housing occupied by the individual who engages in such violence.

It does not include any individual imprisoned or detained pursuant to state law or an Act of Congress. Shared housing with family or friends is not considered temporary and is considered standard replacement housing.

- **Single Applicants:**
Single applicants will be treated as any other family on the waiting list.
- **Elderly Applicants:**
Elderly applicants are applicants for have attained the qualifying age for the site they wish to be considered for provided the site is specifically designated for elderly tenants.
- **Mental Health & Intellectual Developmental Disability Referral:** The PHA will offer a preference to applicants that have been referred to the Public Housing waiting list for consideration of an efficiency unit by the Chester County's Department of Community Development, Human Services and Mental Health& Intellectual Developmental Disability after their screening and selection process.

SYSTEMS OF PREFERENCES

1. Local preferences will be aggregated using the following system:

Each preference will receive an allocation of points. The more preference points an applicant has, the higher the applicant's place on the waiting list.

- Residency Preference – 3 points**
- Veteran's Preference - 2 points**
- Disability Preference - 2 points**
- Working Preference – 2 points**
- Educational/Training Participants – 1 point**
- Graduates of Transitional Housing Programs – 1 point**
- Victims of Domestic Violence – 2 points**
- Involuntary Displacement – 3 points**
- Single Applicants – 1 point**
- Elderly Applicants – 1 point**
- MH&IDDR – 10 points**