



HOUSING ASSISTANCE & FAQ FOR HOUSEHOLDS DISPLACED BY RECENT HURRICANES

I live in Boston Housing Authority (BHA) Public Housing:

Can my displaced family or friends stay with me?

Yes BHA public housing leases allow guests for up to 45 days. If family or friends need to stay longer, talk to your property manager to get permission. Remember, your guests must follow the property/lease rules and there cannot be overcrowding.

Can I add displaced family members to my household?

Yes You may be able to add a family member, subject to regular screening and certification policies. Talk with your property manager.

I have a Section 8 mobile voucher:

Can my displaced friends and family stay with me?

Yes **But**, you can only have guests for 14 days per year. After that, you will need approval from both your landlord and the housing authority. Ask your landlord, then call your leasing officer. Get permission in writing.

Can I add displaced family members to my voucher?

Maybe You may be able to add a family member, subject to regular screening and certification policies. Talk with your leasing officer.

I've been displaced & would like to apply for public housing/mobile voucher:

Do I have priority?

Maybe Displaced households can apply with BHA for public housing or leased housing and, if eligible, would receive priority. Visit www.bostonhousing.org for application and more information.

How long will it take?

It is difficult to predict how long it could take, even if you're eligible. This is not a short-term solution; there are other priority groups.





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I live in a HUD Multi-Family property:

Can displaced friends and family stay with me?

Yes HUD allows FEMA-Certified displaced residents to move in with family & friends who live in HUD Multi-Family housing on a temporary basis, as long as it does not result in overcrowding. Talk to the owner for approval or call HUD's regional office at 617-994-8200. They will need to know the name of the development, street address, and name and contact information for the managing agent.

I live in State-Assisted Housing:

Can displaced family and friends stay with me?

Yes If you need an extension of the guest policy, talk with your property manager and get written permission. Remember, you can't have overcrowded conditions and your guests must follow the lease and property rules.

Can I permanently add a family member?

Maybe Talk with your property manager. They may be able to relax verification requirements and work with you on unit size standards to accommodate this family member.

I want to apply for State-Assisted Housing:

Am I eligible?

Yes If you meet the other application requirements, displaced families will be eligible for Priority 1 status. You can find the application [here](#). If you do not have all of the documentation required, [alternative forms](#) are acceptable.

I have a Section 8 Voucher from (Puerto Rico or US Virgin Islands):

Can I transfer it to Boston?

Maybe Households seeking to transfer a voucher from PR or USVI to Boston should email Paul Acamparo at Paul.Acamparo@bostonhousing.org. Households seeking to transfer a voucher to anywhere else in Massachusetts should email Sonia Colon Miranda at Sonia.I.Colon-Miranda@hud.gov. Please include the following information:

1. Head of household name
2. Last four digits of Social Security #
3. Initial **PHA code**
4. Receiving **PHA code**
5. Voucher bedroom size
6. Last address
7. Telephone number
8. Date of request





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I've been displaced and need help paying rent or for a hotel room:

Is there federal assistance available?

Yes There is Emergency Housing Assistance and Other Needs Assistance available through the Individuals and Households Program (IHP). Register at:

www.DisasterAssistance.gov or
by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

Housing assistance may take the form of rental assistance or temporary lodging assistance. If eligible, FEMA may require a physical property assessment prior to providing funds.

Are there state programs which provide rental assistance?

Yes Massachusetts offers rental assistance through the Rental Assistance for Families in Transition program (RAFT), for families in housing crisis who have children under 21 and meet the program income guidelines. You may be eligible to receive first/last month's rent or a security deposit (up to \$4000) to make a new start. Call the Metro Boston Housing's Consumer Education Center for more information at 617-425-6700.

I have no friends or family to stay with and cannot afford to stay in a hotel:

Is there an emergency shelter for families?

Yes **But**, families in Boston with nowhere to stay should apply for emergency shelter at the DTA Office located at 1010 Massachusetts Avenue. You may need to prove Massachusetts residency by registering children in school or registering to vote. Registering for MassHealth may also qualify you for assistance. If you have registered for FEMA assistance, it is a good idea to bring a copy of your confirmation.

Is there emergency shelter for individuals?

Yes Individuals with nowhere to stay should contact a **local shelter**. Here is a list of four shelters you can reach out to:

Men	Southampton Street Shelter	112 Southampton Street	617-534-6100
Men	Pine Street Inn	444 Harrison Avenue	617-892-9207
Women	Woods Mullen Shelter	794 Massachusetts Avenue	617-534-7101
Women	Pine Street Inn	363 Albany Street	617-892-9321

