



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Mainstream Program Waiting List and Lottery Process

This FAQ is designed to answer questions about applying for the Mainstream Program. If you have additional questions after reviewing these materials, please call the Mainstream Waiting List phone line at (602) 507-4170.

What is the Mainstream Program?

The Mainstream Housing Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Program (Mainstream Program) is a Housing Choice Voucher program (sometimes called Section 8) for eligible disabled families.

What is the jurisdiction for the Mainstream Program?

The jurisdiction for this Mainstream Program is all of Maricopa County. Participants may lease an approved unit with their Housing Choice Voucher anywhere in Maricopa County.

What are the eligibility criteria for the Mainstream Program?

For purposes of eligibility for this program, the following definitions apply:

1. **Disabled Family** - Disabled family means a family whose head, spouse, or sole member is a person with disabilities. It may include two or more persons with disabilities living together, or one or more persons with disabilities living with one or more live-in aides.

2. **Person with Disabilities** - Means a person who:
 - a. Has a disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 423;
 - b. Is determined, pursuant to HUD regulations, to have a physical, mental or emotional impairment that:
 - i. Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
 - ii. Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; and
 - iii. Is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or
 - c. Has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 6001.
 - d. Does not exclude persons who have the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiologic agent for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome;
 - e. For purposes of qualifying for low income housing, does not include a person whose disability is based solely on any drug or alcohol dependence.

3. **Income Eligibility** – The family’s gross annual income must be at or below the very-low income limits, as follows:

1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
\$ 22,050	\$ 25,200	\$ 28,350	\$ 31,450	\$ 34,000	\$ 36,500	\$ 39,000	\$ 41,550



Are there other factors that could make me ineligible?

Additional eligibility criteria require U.S. citizenship or legal immigrant status, documentation of Social Security cards for all household members, signing required consent forms and additional “suitability” criteria requiring a criminal background check for all adult household members.

How do I apply for the Mainstream Program?

Interested applicants will submit a pre-application form online at the HOM, Inc., web site at <http://hominc.com/hom-inc-mainstream-housing-opportunities.html> any time between 8 AM, Monday, April 10, 2017 and 5 PM, Friday, April 21, 2017. Applications may be submitted online 24 hours a day during the pre-application period. The pre-application collects minimal information about applicant households for purposes of conducting a lottery to determine the number and order of households to be added to the waiting list.

How is the lottery conducted?

Once the pre-application enrollment period closes, HOM, Inc., will randomly sort the list of all applicants that applied and will place the resulting first 200 applicants on the waiting list.

How will I know if I was selected in the lottery to be added to the waiting list?

HOM, Inc., will send you a letter in the mail to notify you of the lottery results. You will receive a letter if you were or were not selected in the lottery. If you are selected in the lottery, your letter will also inform you of your position on the waiting list as a result of the random sort order.

Why are you using a lottery to determine positions on the waiting list? Wouldn't it be more fair if the list were first-come, first-served?

The lottery is the fairest way to give everyone an equal chance of being added to the waiting list. This avoids families having to wait for hours in line since there is no rush to be the first one to apply. Applying early will not improve someone's chances of being selected for the lottery. All households will have the same chance of being selected for the lottery regardless of when they apply during the pre-application period.

I don't have a computer at home. Where can I go to apply online?

Any computer, smart phone, or internet enabled device can be used to complete a pre-application. HOM, Inc., has also partnered with many organizations in the community who will provide free access to computers at different locations throughout the community. See the attached list of locations and times.

What information do I need to apply for the lottery?

The online pre-application will require the following information:

- Name, relationship, date of birth for each member of the household
- Social Security Numbers for all household members
- Monthly gross income for the household (before taxes and other deductions)

Please have this information available before you start the pre-application process. The pre-application form will not allow you to save partially completed pre-applications (i.e. If you complete part of the pre-application but do not have all of the information on you, then the partially completed pre-application will be discarded and you will have to start the pre-application process from the beginning).



Will I need a social security number to apply?

Yes, all household members will be required to have a valid SSN. Please contact Social Security now to get this process started if you do not have a number.

Can my family submit more than one pre-application?

No. Only one pre-application per family will be allowed. Families that submit more than one pre-application may be disqualified.

How do I know if my pre-application went through?

At the end of the pre-application process, you will receive an e-mail confirmation of your submission. The e-mail confirms your pre-application has been received. Please save a copy of the e-mail for future reference in case any questions arise regarding your pre-application.

Will the pre-application be available in languages other than English?

Yes, the pre-application will also be available in Spanish. If you need assistance in completing the pre-application due to language barriers, please call the Mainstream Waiting List phone line at (602) 507-9999 and we will arrange for assistance in your language.

If I fill out the online-only pre-application form, does this mean I will receive housing assistance?

No. The pre-application will only give you a chance to be placed in the pool of applicants that will be used to select the list of 200 households that will be placed on the waiting list. We'll send you a confirmation letter letting you know if your pre-application was selected for the list of 200, and, if so, your household's position on the list.

When will I find out if I've been selected to be placed on the waiting list?

We will send you a letter indicating whether you are selected in the lottery or not. If you are selected to be placed on the waiting list, our letter will let you know your waiting list position as well. If you are not selected to be placed on the waiting list, the letter will provide information about future waiting list opportunities.

In what order will the pre-applications be placed on the waiting list?

Once the pre-application enrollment period closes, HOM, Inc., will randomly sort the list of all applicants that applied and will place the resulting first 200 applicants on the waiting list.

How many total pre-applications for the lottery will be accepted?

There is no limit to the number of pre-applications we will accept. However, only one pre-application per household will be allowed. Households that submit more than one pre-application may be disqualified.

How do I contact HOM, Inc., if I'm having problems with the pre-application?

You can call the Mainstream Waiting List line at (602) 507-4170. Because we are expecting high volumes of phone calls during the pre-application period, please be patient. We will respond to your questions as soon as possible.



I don't understand how to fill out the information in the pre-application form. What do I do?

If you have difficulty with the pre-application process, please contact our office at (602) 507-4170. A team member will then help you with the registration process. Please note: Due to expected high volumes of calls, pre-application assistance may be delayed through the pre-application period. This will not affect your placement on the list since the final list is determined randomly.

I have a disability and need assistance completing the pre-application. Is there someone who will assist me?

Yes, HOM, Inc., will have staff available to assist anyone who needs assistance completing a pre-application by calling (602) 507-4170. Because we are expecting high volumes of phone calls during the pre-application period, please be patient. We will respond to your questions as soon as possible.

American with Disabilities Act

We need help to ensure that all our programs, services, and activities are fully accessible to persons with disabilities. If you encounter any type of barrier that prevents you from receiving the full benefit of our programs, services, or activities, please contact our main office at (602) 265-4640. It is the policy of HOM, Inc., to see that every individual regardless of race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, national origin, sexual orientation, familial status or disability shall have equal opportunity in accessing housing.



Free computer access is available at the following locations throughout the Valley (check with Agency for their location and hours):

<p>HOM, Inc. 3829 North 3rd Street Phoenix, AZ 85012 (602) 265-4640</p> <p><i>HOM staff will be available to assist you with completing the pre-application using a HOM computer.</i></p>	<p>Ability 360 5025 E. Washington St, Ste 200 Phoenix, AZ 85034 (602) 256-2245</p> <p>6829 N. 57th Ave, Glendale 85301 (602) 424-4100</p> <p><i>Computer lab with assistive technology.</i></p>
<p>Burton Barr Phoenix Public Library 1221 N. Central Ave Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 262-4636</p> <p><i>Four dedicated assistive computer workstations are located on the second floor. Customers may use the assistive computer stations on a first come, first served basis by presenting their library card at the Second Floor computer assistance desk during all open hours.</i></p>	<p>Mesa Public Libraries</p> <p>64 E. First Street, Mesa AZ 85201 2055 S. Power Rd Ste 1031, Mesa AZ 85209 424 W. Broadway Rd, Mesa AZ 85210 2425 S. Dobson Rd, Mesa AZ 85202 635 N Power Rd, Mesa AZ 85205</p>
<p>Maricopa County Libraries</p> <p>775 N. Greenfield Rd, Gilbert 85234 9241 S. Avenida del Yaqui, Guadalupe 85283 40410 N. Gavilan Peak Pkwy, Anthem 85086 16089 N. Bullard Ave, Surprise 85374 16828 N. 99th Ave, Sun City 85351</p>	<p>Arizona Fair Housing Center 1402 S. Central Ave, Ste B Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 548-1599</p>
<p>Save the Family 125 E. University Drive Mesa, AZ 85201 (480) 898-0228</p>	<p>MesaCAN - A New Leaf 635 E. Broadway Rd Mesa, AZ 85204 (480) 833-9200</p>
<p>AZ @ Works 735 N. Gilbert Road, Ste 134 Gilbert, AZ 85234 (602) 372-9700</p> <p>1840 N. 95th Ave Ste 160 Phoenix, AZ 85037 (602) 372-4200</p> <p><i>Assistive technology that can be acquired at both</i></p>	<p>Care1st Avondale Resource Center 328 W. Western Ave Avondale, AZ 85323 (623) 333-2703</p>

