

Affordable Senior Housing: Getting Started Checklist

Use this checklist to help you stay organized as you search for safe, affordable senior housing. You can print this out and keep it with your paperwork as you make calls, apply for programs, and follow up with housing offices.

1. Documents to Gather

- Photo ID (driver's license, state ID, or passport)
- Proof of income (Social Security, pension, retirement account statements)
- Bank statements
- Current lease or rental history
- Medical expense documentation (if applicable)

2. Programs to Research and Apply For

- HUD Section 202 Supportive Housing
- Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) properties
- Local Public Housing Authorities (PHA)
- Non-profit housing providers (e.g., Volunteers of America, Mercy Housing)

- Local Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

3. Application Steps

- Call or visit at least two senior housing programs
- Fill out the applications completely
- Submit all required documents
- Make copies of everything you send
- Follow up within 30–60 days to check your application status

4. Extra Help to Lower Monthly Costs

- Apply for LIHEAP (energy bill help)
- Apply for SNAP (food assistance)
- Sign up for Meals on Wheels (home-delivered meals)
- Use local senior transportation programs for appointments or errands

5. Notes & Follow-ups

(Use this section to write down phone numbers, appointment dates, or waitlist updates.)