



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
ADMINISTRATION

# Rent Subsidy Program

## At a Glance

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### About DDA's Housing Rent Subsidy

- **What is DDA's Rent Subsidy?** The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), in partnership with the Department of Disabilities (MDOD) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) launched a new rent subsidy program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- The program, called the DDA Rent Subsidy Program (DDARSP), will enable eligible people to rent a home and pay just 30% of their total household income for rent and basic utilities (gas, water and electricity) in accordance with the prioritization of Maryland Partnership for Affordable Housing.
- The program will pay the remaining rent.
- **How do you become eligible for DDA's Rent Subsidy?**
  - To be eligible for the program, applicants must meet the following criteria:
    - Adults, age 18 and above
    - Household income at or below 50% of area median income in the county where the housing will be located
    - Receive at least one DDA service or on the waitlist for services in the Crisis Resolution category
    - Not currently housed with a rent subsidy from another public source or reside in public housing
- **How are applicant's prioritized?** Eligible applicants will be prioritized for the program in the following order:
  1. Currently receiving state funds from the DDA for rent
  2. Homeless, or at risk of homelessness, in the following order
    - a. Currently homeless – staying in a shelter or without any temporary housing
    - b. At risk of being homeless – staying with friends/family but will lose this shelter within 14 days
    - c. Unaccompanied youth – under age 25 staying with friends or family for more than 60 days due to not having permanent housing or living arrangement
    - d. Family with children/youth – family with children/youth staying with friends/family for more than 60 days due to not having permanent housing or living arrangement
    - e. Fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence
    - f. Individual in temporary housing – individual age 25 or older living with friends/family for more than 60 days

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3. Transitioning from a long-term care facility or institution
4. Living with a caregiver who is age 55 or older or who is no longer able to care for the applicant
5. Transitioning from a group home, shared living or foster care
6. All other eligible applicants, (18 years of age and participating in one of the DDA waiver programs with a housing support goal).

## How to Apply for the Rent Subsidy?

- People with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are interested in participating in the program will need to have a housing goal in their Person Centered Plan (PCP). Coordinators of Community Services (CCS) will refer people to Housing Support Service providers, who can enroll the person on the DDA rent subsidy waitlist.

## How to access?

- Meet with your CCS and express desire to live on your own and request Housing Support Services (HSS) be added to the PCP. This can be done at the annual meeting or as an update.
- Once the service is approved and HSS provider is chosen, the HSS professional will make the referral to the DDA Rent Subsidy Program that is housed on the Department of Disabilities (DOD) [Social Serve Network](#).
- The HSS provider will monitor status of the DDA rent subsidy waitlist and keep the person posted of their status.
- Once a subsidy becomes available the HSS provider will assist the individual with locating a rental unit of their choice.
- HSS will support you with applying for utilities and arranging for moving.
- HSS will participate along with CSS with reviewing and understanding the lease before signing.
- Once you signed the lease and moved in, the HSS provider will provide tenant education HSS provider will assist with troubleshooting any housing concerns that arise in order for you to maintain and succeed with your housing needs.

## Who to Contact at DDA?

- The Director of Innovations, Stephanie Jones at [dda.housinginitiative@maryland.gov](mailto:dda.housinginitiative@maryland.gov)



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