

Community Rent Scheme

Fact sheet for tenants

The Community Rent Scheme is a housing assistance program funded by the Queensland Government through the Department of Housing and Public Works.

The scheme funds not-for-profit community organisations to provide transitional housing to eligible applicants who have been assessed by the department as having very high or high housing needs. Transitional housing is not long-term housing. Providers assist their tenants to stabilise their circumstances and move on to the private market or longer term social housing.

Community Rent Scheme providers rent properties from private landlords or the department, and then lease them to tenants. When you are a tenant in a Community Rent Scheme property, the provider is your landlord.

What types of properties are available in the Community Rent Scheme?

Community Rent Scheme providers manage a wide range of properties, from one-bedroom units to three- and four-bedroom houses, depending on the area and what is available to rent from private owners. When you apply for social housing, an assessment is made of the type of housing that would best meet your needs.

Community Rent Scheme providers are sometimes able to source accommodation for eligible applicants who require a particular type of property. For example, a Community Rent Scheme provider may be able to source a property for a large household requiring five bedrooms.

What services do Community Rent Scheme providers offer?

Community Rent Scheme providers offer transitional housing, which is not long-term social housing. Community Rent Scheme providers develop a tenancy plan with tenants that assist the household to gain skills in managing a tenancy and move towards independent housing. The tenancy plan is reviewed on a regular basis.

The tenancy planning process helps you to decide on the best way to move towards living in long-term social housing or private rental.

How do I apply for the Community Rent Scheme?

There is a common application system for transitional and longer term housing assistance. Contact your nearest Housing Service Centre to arrange an appointment to have your housing needs assessed. If an appointment is not convenient for you, you can apply by completing an [Application for Housing Assistance \(Form 7\)](#) and sending it to the Housing Service Centre. Application forms are also available

from Housing Service Centres, registered community housing providers and Queensland Government Agent Program (QGAP) offices.

All eligible applicants are listed on a housing register, which is managed by the Department of Housing and Public Works.

Service standards

The Department of Housing and Public Works requires providers to meet certain standards in delivering housing assistance under the Housing Act 2003 and through funding agreements. Tenants of registered community housing providers can expect the same level of service from their provider as they would receive from the department in public housing.

Where can I get more information?

More information on these services is available from your nearest [Housing Service Centre](#), the Department of Housing and Public Works' website, www.hpw.qld.gov.au or by contacting us on 13 QGOV (13 74 68).