

Social Housing Eligibility

Housing Regulation 2015

Section 14(2) of the Housing Regulation 2015 requires funded providers to implement the Social Housing Eligibility Criteria as published by the Department from time to time.

What are the Social Housing Eligibility Criteria?

The Social Housing Eligibility Criteria are the criteria used by the Queensland Government to determine a clients' access to social housing

Eligibility for social housing is tested both at the initial point of 'access' to social housing assistance and again to determine 'ongoing' eligibility for social housing both while a client is an approved applicant on the Housing Register and also during a social housing tenancy. Applicants for social housing are assessed against all of the following 'access' common eligibility criteria:

- Australian citizenship or permanent residency
- Queensland residency
- Assets test (property ownership and liquid assets)
- Independent income
- Household income limits
- Appropriateness of current housing.

Tenants and their household members living in either Community Housing or Public Housing are assessed against the following 'ongoing' eligibility criteria:

- Property ownership (applies to all household members)
- Tenant and spouse income limits
- An assessment of ongoing housing need that includes the household's ongoing match and need for the property they are living .

When do the Social Housing Eligibility Criteria apply?

All applicants for social housing must meet all of the 'access' eligibility criteria. Applicants can apply for housing assistance at any housing service centre.

If a provider becomes aware that an applicant referred to the provider for social housing assistance does not meet all eligibility criteria, the provider should immediately contact the Housing Services Centre.

Funded providers must regularly apply the 'ongoing' social housing eligibility criteria to review if a

tenant and their households remain eligible for social housing assistance.

The access and ongoing social housing eligibility criteria are also used in assessing client-initiated transfer applications. For more information on the transfer criteria, see Provider information sheet 7.

Who uses the Social Housing Eligibility Criteria?

Housing Service Centre staff use the social housing eligibility criteria when assessing applications for social housing and during the application review and social housing allocation processes.

Registered providers of community housing, affordable housing and transitional housing use the social housing eligibility criteria when checking a clients' continued need for social housing, for example, when managing client-initiated transfers.

For more information

More information about the social housing eligibility criteria is available on the Department of Housing and Public Works website at www.hpw.qld.gov.au.