

HOUSING VOUCHERS

This work is supported by funding from the North Dakota State Council on Developmental Disabilities and by the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities with assistance from the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities at Minot State University.

Dated 2026



STEP 1: THINK ABOUT YOUR HOUSING NEEDS

- Do you need help paying for housing?
- Do you need housing that is affordable and accessible?
- Are you age 55 or older or do you have a disability?
- Do you want to live independently in your community?

If **yes** to any question, go to Step 2.

If **no** to all questions, housing assistance may not be needed at this time.

STEP 2: IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF HOUSING HELP YOU NEED

- Do you need help paying rent?
- Do you want to live in senior or disability-focused housing?
- Do you have credit, rental history, or other barriers making it hard to find housing?
- Do you need support services to help you stay in your home?

If **yes** to any question, go to Step 3.

If **no** to all questions, housing assistance may not be available at this time.

STEP 3: LEARN ABOUT AVAILABLE HOUSING PROGRAMS

Depending on your needs, programs may include:

- *Housing Choice Voucher* (Section 8) to help pay rent in privately owned housing.
- *Project-Based Section 8 Housing* where rental assistance is tied to a specific property.
- *HUD Senior or Disability Housing* with affordable housing options for older adults and people with disabilities.
- *Opening Doors Program* for people who have disabilities or aging-related needs and face barriers such as poor credit, rental history, or criminal records.

Important: Some housing properties are limited to residents age 55 and older. People using Mainstream Vouchers may be under age 62, which can limit available housing options. Ask about age and eligibility requirements when applying.

After reviewing your options, go to Step 4.

STEP 4: GATHER INFORMATION & APPLY

You may need:

- Identification
- Social Security card
- Proof of income or benefits
- Disability documentation, if applicable
- Rental history and household information

If you **have** these documents, contact housing providers and submit applications.

If you **do not have** these documents, gather them before applying. Then go to Step 5.

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STEP 5: GET SERVICES & PLAN AHEAD

If you answered **yes** to questions that match your needs, housing assistance and support services may be available to help you live safely and independently. **Next Steps:**

- Contact the Aging and Disability Resource Link (ADRL) for housing information and referrals.
- Contact North Dakota 211 if you need emergency housing assistance, shelter, or help paying rent or utilities.
- Ask about Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8), Project-Based Housing, and HUD housing options.
- Ask whether the Opening Doors Program may help if you have barriers to renting.
- Explore in-home supports, transportation, personal care, and other services that can help you remain in your home.
- Keep copies of all applications and important housing documents.
- Review your housing needs regularly and update your plan as your needs change.

Important Disclaimer: Eligibility for HCBS or MFP is not guaranteed. Meeting general criteria does not automatically mean you will be approved. Each waiver has its own application process, documentation requirements, and review procedures. You must apply and be found eligible by the authorizing agency.

RESOURCES

- Aging and Disability Resource Link of North Dakota (ADRL): <https://ndcarechoice.hhs.nd.gov/>
- North Dakota 211: Dial 211 | www.211counts.org
- North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA): www.ndhfa.org
- Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Information: www.hud.gov/states/north-dakota
- Opening Doors Program: www.ndhfa.org
- Local Public Housing Authorities (PHAs): www.hud.gov/contactus/public-housing-contacts
- Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8): www.hud.gov/states/north-dakota