



**FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING &
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

241 Millers Falls Road • Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone: (413) 863-9781 • Facsimile: (413) 863-9289

Public Notice

The Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is adding additional local and homeless preferences to their Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waitlist. Effective July 10th, HRA will begin using a local preference defined as anyone, living, working or hired to work anywhere within Franklin County or Athol. HRA will also be instituting a limited homeless preference to 13 eligible families.

Eligible family is defined as:

A family composed of one or more non-elderly persons ages 18-61, with disabilities which may include additional members who are not non-elderly with disabilities. A family where the sole member is an emancipated minor is not an eligible family.

Homeless is defined as:

Category 1- Literally Homeless-

An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or a private place not meant for human habitation;
- Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or
- Is existing in an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.

Category 2- Imminent Risk of Homelessness

An individual or family, who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:

- The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
- No subsequent residence has been identified; and
- The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, needed to obtain other permanent housing;



**FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING &
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

241 Millers Falls Road • Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone: (413) 863-9781 • Facsimile: (413) 863-9289

Category 3- Homeless under other Federal statutes

Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:

- Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), Section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);
- Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;
- Have experiences persistent instability as measured by two moved or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
- Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities; chronic physical health or mental health conditions; substance addiction; histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect); the presence of a child or youth with a disability; or two or more barriers to employment, which included the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or

Category 4- Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV

Any individual or family who:

- Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence;
- Has no other residence; and
- Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, and faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING &
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

241 Millers Falls Road • Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone: (413) 863-9781 • Facsimile: (413) 863-9289

If you wish to apply to the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program you may contact HRA for an application, apply online or if you have already applied you can update your application at www.gosection8.com/masscw/

If you believe you may be eligible for one or both of these preferences please either apply or update your application prior to July 10th, 2020.