

**DECATUR HOUSING AUTHORITY
HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM
WAITING LIST FAQ UPDATE**

Q. Is DHA's Section 8 waiting list open?

A. No. DHA's waiting list was open from October 26, 2020 through October 30, 2020.

Q. Was everyone who applied placed on the waiting list?

A. No. Completing and submitting an electronic application did not guarantee placement on the waiting list. 4,000 applicants were selected for the waiting list.

Q. When will the waiting list open again?

A. The waiting list will not open again until the 4,000 applicants selected for the waiting list have been assisted. It may take several years to assist all 4,000 applicants.

Q. How were applicants selected for the waiting list?

A. Selection for the waiting list was not made on a first come first serve basis. To give every applicant an equal opportunity of being selected for the waiting list, DHA used an outside agency to conduct random lottery selections for placement on the waiting list from the 40,197 applications received.

Q. Why was my application denied?

A. 40,197 applicants applied to be placed on the waiting list. 4,000 of the 40,197 applicants were randomly selected by a third-party agency using a lottery system to be placed on the waiting list.

Q. Why was I denied emergency housing?

A. DHA does not offer emergency housing. Applicants are considered for housing when they reach the top of the waiting list and there is a voucher available to issue. If all vouchers are in use by families on the program, DHA cannot consider an applicant for housing.

Q. I am homeless and need housing. What can I do?

A. If you are homeless in DeKalb County, contact DeKalb County's Coordinated Entry number 404-687-3500 for assistance or the United Way, 211. If you are homeless in another county, contact the United Way in your area. You may also visit HUD's website, www.hud.gov/findshelter .

Q. What happens to the applications of people not selected for the waiting list?

A. 4,000 applicants were selected for placement on the actual waiting list. All other applications were discarded.

Q. How will I know if I was selected to be on the waiting list?

A. **You may call the Waiting List Line, 404-270-2116** and follow the prompts. If you are on the waiting list, your waiting list number will be available. If you were not selected for the waiting list, there will be no record of you.

Q. I did not receive email notification of my status. What should I do?

A. If you changed your email address after you submitted your application, you may not have received an email notification.

If your email address was typed incorrectly, you did not receive an email notification.

If your email bounced back for any reason, you did not receive an email notification.

You may call the Waiting List Line, 404-270-2116 and follow the prompts. If you are on the waiting list, your waiting list number will be available. If you were not selected for the waiting list, there will be no record of you.

Q. Does DHA have waiting list preferences?

A. Yes. Applicants residing in DeKalb County, applicants who work in DeKalb County and households with non-elderly disabled persons are given a preference. The preferences will be applied after the 4,000 applicants are selected for the waiting list. Applicants who claim a preference will go to the top of the waiting list according to their lottery selection number.

Q. If I was selected for the waiting list, how will I know my waiting list number?

A. Applicants selected for the waiting list may call the Waiting List Line, 404-270-2116, and follow the prompts to verify their position on the waiting list. Please understand that a person's position on the waiting list can change due to changes in the local preferences of applicants on the waiting list. **No telephone or email confirmations will be given and no in person confirmations will be given at the DHA office.**

Q. Is there a telephone number I can call to verify my position on the waiting list?

A. Yes. Applicants selected for the waiting list may call the Waiting List Line, 404-270-2116, and follow the prompts to verify their position on the waiting list. Please understand that a person's position on the waiting list can change due to changes in the local preferences of applicants on the waiting list.

Q. If I was selected for the waiting list and my contact information changes, should I notify DHA?

A. Yes. If you were selected to be on the waiting list, you must notify DHA **in writing** if your email address and/or mailing address changes after your application date. Your mailing address is used to contact you at the time of selection from the waiting list. You may be removed from the waiting list if you fail to respond.

Submit your new contact information in writing to waitinglist@decaturha.org or mail your new contact information to
Decatur Housing Authority
750 Commerce Drive Suite 400
Decatur, GA 30030

***No changes in contact information will be accepted by phone.**

Q. If I was selected for the waiting list, do I have to verify the preference I am claiming?

A. No. You do not have to verify the preference you are claiming when you are selected for the waiting list. Waiting list preferences will be verified when the applicant is being considered for housing.

Q. If I cannot document a preference when I am being considered for housing, am I eligible for the preference?

A. No. Failure to provide the necessary documentation or verification of a preference will mean that you are not eligible for the preference on the waiting list. Your position on the waiting list will change when the preference is removed.

Q. If I was selected for the waiting list, do I have to provide eligibility documentation?

A. No. Eligibility documents are not required at this time. Eligibility documentation will be required when you are being considered for housing.

Q. If I was selected for the waiting list, do I have to report changes in my household members or income?

A. No. Changes to your family composition or income do not have to be reported at this time. Documentation will be required when you are being considered for housing.

Q. If I am considered for housing, how will I be notified?

A. Your **mailing address** is used to contact you at the time of selection from the waiting list and you are being considered for housing. You may be removed from the waiting list if you fail to respond. Failure to notify DHA of your address change may result in your removal from the waiting list.

Q. When will I be considered for housing?

A. You can only be considered for housing when a voucher is available, and you reach the top of the waiting list. Each housing authority has a set number of vouchers allocated by HUD. If all vouchers are in use by families on the program, DHA cannot consider an applicant for housing.