

# Eligibility

#### Overview

This policy explains eligibility for social housing and how we will meet our contractual and legal duties.

### Scope

This policy applies to SGCH Homes Victoria and its subsidiaries (we, our and us).

For affordable housing eligibility, please refer to our Affordable Housing policy.

### Applying for social housing

The Victorian Housing Register (VHR) is the central system for applying for social housing in Victoria, for both public housing and community housing. The Department of Families Fairness and Housing (DFFH) administers the VHR.

Applicants can apply for social housing through the VHR. An application can be made online through <u>myGov</u> or in person at a <u>DFFH office</u>. We can provide assistance and referrals regarding applying for social housing but generally we do not assess applications.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for social housing, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria for social housing:

- be a citizen or have permanent residency in Australia
- be a Victorian resident
- meet the VHR income and asset eligibility limits.

The VHR has two categories:

- Priority Access is for people:
  - who are homeless and receiving support
  - o are escaping or have escaped domestic and family violence
  - with a disability or significant support needs
  - who need to move for health reasons.
- Register of Interest is for people who do not meet the Priority Access criteria but are seeking to live in social housing.

#### Eligible applicants

We may have additional eligibility criteria for our properties. This includes:

- Cohort target groups such as:
  - o people with disability
  - veterans
  - o people over 55
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
  - o victim-survivors of domestic and family violence.
- Requirements that the renter is able to maintain the tenancy, with or without support.

We will communicate eligibility requirements to applicants before making an allocation.



## Relevant legislation, regulations or standards

- Housing Act 1983 (Vic): Performance Standard 1 (Tenant and housing services)
- Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (Vic)
- Victorian Housing Register: Eligibility Framework
- Victorian Housing Register: Policy Framework and Operational Guidelines

#### Related documents/resources

Policy: Affordable Housing

## **Policy information**

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Responsible team/position: Executive Director, Customers – Services

Transparency and accessibility: Available on our website