



DDD Housing Assistance: Frequently Asked Questions

Will the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) offer housing assistance in the Fee-for-Service system?

While “room and board” is not a Medicaid eligible service, the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) recognizes that housing is an important resource for any individual. DDD is pleased to be able to provide rental subsidies to eligible individuals who are enrolled in DDD’s Fee-for-Service system, to help cover the cost of housing, *as annual budget allocations allow*.

DDD funded rental subsidies are administered by the **Supportive Housing Connection (SHC)**, which is a partnership between the NJ Department of Community Affairs and the NJ Department of Human Services (DHS).

Who can apply for an SHC housing subsidy?

To apply for an SHC housing subsidy an individual must:

- Meet the functional criteria for DDD eligibility
- Have current and active Medicaid
- Have a current NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool (NJ CAT):
www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/individuals/applyservices/assessment/
- Have an assigned Support Coordinator



Applicants who may qualify for an SHC housing subsidy include:

- Individuals with existing housing instability
- Individuals receiving or planning to receive services from the Supports Program
- Individuals enrolled on the Community Care Program (CCP) who are self-directing services in an unlicensed residential setting or using provider managed services in a licensed residential setting.
- Individuals on the CCP Waiting List who have been reached in the current fiscal year initiative

What type of housing does an SHC housing subsidy cover?

In most cases, SHC housing subsidies will be provided for one-bedroom rental units. If an individual will be living with other paying tenants (this does not include family members or support staff), an SHC housing subsidy may be approved for a rental unit with more than one bedroom. The SHC will conduct initial, annual, and any other needed unit inspections.

An SHC housing subsidy will fund rental units that are at or below Published Rent Standards. Current Published Rent Standards can be found [here](#) in the *Housing Subsidy Program* section.

- Rental units that are not licensed through DHS will be inspected by SHC and must meet and maintain Housing Quality Standards established by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Rental units licensed through DHS will be inspected by the DHS Office of Licensing and must meet and maintain standards identified in N.J.A.C. 10:44A – Standards for Community Residences for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities. The most current version of this regulation can be found on the [Department of Human Services Office of Licensing website](#).

Will the SHC housing subsidy pay the individual’s entire monthly rent?

No. The SHC housing subsidy will not pay the entire monthly rent. An individual who receives an SHC housing subsidy will be required to pay 30% of his/her gross income (Including SSI benefit, SSD benefit if applicable, and employment wages) directly to the landlord. The SHC will pay the remainder of the monthly rent amount directly to the landlord.

Will the SHC housing subsidy pay for needed services and supports?

No. The SHC housing subsidy provides rental assistance only and does not provide funding for disability-related services and supports. Before applying for a housing subsidy, it is important that an individual work with his/her Support Coordinator to ensure that his/her budget can fund needed services and supports within the desired rental unit.

How can an individual apply for an SHC housing subsidy?

An individual who is interested in applying for an SHC housing subsidy should talk with his/her Support Coordinator (an individual must have an assigned Support Coordinator to request an SHC housing subsidy). The Support Coordinator will then take the following steps (referenced form is located at [DDD’s Housing Assistance website](#)).

- The Support Coordinator will complete and submit the **DDD Housing Subsidy Program Eligibility Determination Form** to DDD’s Housing Subsidy Unit.
- If the request is approved, the individual will be referred to the **Supportive Housing Connection (SHC)**.

Individuals approved for an SHC housing subsidy will be contacted by a DDD Housing Subsidy Unit staff who will explain next steps in the process.

PLEASE NOTE: When an individual applies for and accepts an SHC housing subsidy, it is important that they understand the rules and requirements, which are included in the [DDD Housing Assistance Policy](#) and the [DDD Rental Subsidy Agreement](#), found at [DDD’s Housing Assistance website](#).

For more information, please contact DDD.HousingSubsidy@dhs.nj.gov or 732.968.4222 and ask to speak with someone in the **DDD Housing Subsidy Unit**