



Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing and Recertification

Homeless Prevention (HP)

Homelessness prevention assistance is intended for eligible Veteran families who are imminently at-risk of becoming literally homeless (e.g., entering an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation) but for SSVF assistance. Note that this includes Veteran families who may be living in a doubled-up housing situation and who are also imminently at risk of becoming literally homeless. Targeting SSVF assistance in this manner helps ensure limited SSVF resources are directed to Veteran families who have no other housing options and resources and there are no other community resources available to prevent literal homelessness.

A Veteran family applying for homelessness prevention assistance **must also be assessed and prioritized using VA targeting criteria** included in “Stage 2” of the VA’s “Homelessness Prevention Screening Form”. Only those Veteran household who meet both Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the ‘Homelessness Prevention Screening Form’ may be offered Temporary Financial Assistance; however, TFA does not always need to be offered to all households meeting these thresholds.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

SSVF’s rapid re-housing assistance is intended for eligible Veteran families who are literally homeless as per definition bulleted below. Persons qualifying as literally homeless include persons who at the time of application or reassessment lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including Veteran families who are:

- Staying in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground; OR
- Staying in a supervised publicly- or privately-operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals); OR
- Exiting an institution where s/he 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: OR
- Are fleeing or attempting to flee a domestic violence situation

Recertification

In order to ensure that SSVF programs fully evaluate participants’ housing barriers, housing situation and eligibility for services, SSVF requires recertification at least once every 90 days. If a Participant is not recertified (or does not provide required documentation **BY** recertification date) they must be exited from the program. The **one** exception to this requirement is for those Veteran families receiving a Shallow Subsidy who are recertified once every two years. While the intent of SSVF is to provide a short-term intervention, it is acceptable and common for SSVF grantees to provide lengths of service that are either shorter or longer than three months. Determination of length and amount of assistance is based on a progressive assistance approach that requires ongoing assessment, evaluation and housing planning to overcome each Veteran household’s barriers to obtaining and/or retaining permanent housing. A simple recertification step is required to determine whether the household is ready to exit the program or will require continued provision of services.