

HOUSING



EMERGENCY SHELTER

If you are seeking **emergency shelter**, please note that the method of accessing shelter depends on your situation:

- Emergency Assistance (EA) is for **pregnant women or families with children**. Apply at the Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) at the local DTA office (e.g. 1010 Mass Ave). You should arrive before 8 am for same day placement and bring your belongings and documentation that you do not have current housing (e.g. an eviction notice). If denied, you should ask to appeal on the spot. More instructions: <https://bit.ly/36rWirm>
- If you need shelter because of **domestic violence**, you should call the SafeLink hotline: 1-877-785-2020 to learn about available beds.
- If you are an **unaccompanied adult**, please reference the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless list of shelters and application procedures: www.mahomeless.org/get-help

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

If you are seeking **affordable housing**, the first steps are to fill out the CHAMP application for Massachusetts public housing (<https://bit.ly/2UiFa1z>) and the Section 8 pre-application (<https://bit.ly/3eRN77j>) for a voucher. Please note that both of these waitlists can be up to 10 years.

If you have a voucher already, you can check the BHA's list of **available apartments** from private landlords (<https://bit.ly/35pMDSH>) and search for openings at www.gosection8.com.

A non-guaranteed but faster-moving way to get housing is to enter a **housing lottery**, which are listed on the City of Boston's website: www.boston.gov/metrolist/search

RAFT PROGRAM

You might also qualify for the **RAFT program**, which provides short-term financial assistance to families at risk of homelessness. To apply for RAFT funding, complete a Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC) Intake Assessment by calling 1-800-224-5124 or searching for a regional agency: www.masshousinginfo.org