

Source of Funds

Whether you have a Housing Choice Voucher, SSDI, or other form of rental assistance, your source of funds is protected from housing discrimination by federal and Virginia fair housing laws.

Source of funds includes any lawful means by which rent or purchase costs are paid on behalf of a renter or buyer of housing, including any assistance, benefit, or subsidy program, whether such program is administered by a governmental or nongovernmental entity.



Source of funds is a protected class in Virginia

Landlords are required by law to treat all applicants the same regardless of what legal source of funds are used to pay rent. This includes looking at credit and rental history, sufficiency of funds, and adhering to a background check. Receiving financial assistance should not automatically disqualify someone from renting.

Examples of discrimination include:

- Rental listings or ads that say “No Section 8.”
- A landlord charges more or requires an additional deposit when a Housing Voucher is presented.
- A landlord suggesting a tenant does not deserve their Voucher or other financial assistance.
- Refusing to rent to an otherwise well-qualified tenant because of stereotypes about people who receive financial assistance.
- A landlord setting an income requirement, but not factoring in the amount paid by the Voucher.
- A landlord refusing to renew your lease because you receive rental assistance.

You are protected if you receive or have received in the past:

- Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)
- Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
- Emergency rental assistance from nonprofits
- Rent Relief Program (RRP) during COVID
- And others



Report Housing Discrimination at HOMEofVA.org/Report

FairHousing@HOMEofVA.org • 804-354-0641 • VA Relay 711

Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia can help determine if you have been discriminated against, and may help you seek the remedies that are available to everyone under fair housing laws. As a non-profit provider, our services are provided statewide and are **free and confidential**.

For more details visit HOMEofVA.org/Funds

