

MARYLAND BRIDGE SUBSIDY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

A recommendation of the Governor's Commission on Housing Policy

PARTICIPANT FACT SHEET

What is the Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program?

The Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program is a PILOT program that provides rental assistance to a limited number of low income individuals with disabilities for up to 3 years in participating counties.

Who is eligible?

Persons selected by the Service Providers who meet the following minimum criteria:

- Age 25 or older
- Receiving SSI or SSDI cash payment
- Annual income of \$12,000 or less
- Meet eligibility criteria for the local public housing authority in order to be placed on their waiting list.
- Currently receiving services or willing to receive services from a Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program service provider.

There are a limited number of slots for the Demonstration Program and not everyone who meets the eligibility criteria will be selected for participation.

How much rental assistance does the Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program provide?

Participants will be responsible for paying a portion of their rent, which is equal to 30% of their income (for example a monthly income of \$603, a participant would be required to spend \$181 on rent and utilities per month). The remainder of the participant's rent will be paid directly to their landlord by the public housing authority.

How long can I receive the Bridge Subsidy?

You can receive the Bridge Subsidy until you receive a housing choice voucher or other permanent housing assistance, which will occur within 3 years after you start on the Program. The Bridge Subsidy provides rental assistance for a maximum of 3 years provided the participant abides by all the requirements for the Program. If you fail to abide by the requirements of the program you will be terminated from the Program.

How do I find housing to qualify for the Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program?

Participants will work with a Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program service provider to locate affordable housing that meets their needs. Local public housing authorities will assist service providers and participants with finding housing.

Who are the Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program Service Providers?

The Developmental Disabilities Administration, the Mental Hygiene Administration, Centers for Independent Living, The Coordinating Center or the Department of Aging.

What counties are participating?

Allegany County, Caroline County, Carroll County, City of Cumberland, Dorchester County, Frederick City, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Howard County, Kent County, Somerset County, St. Mary's County, Talbot County (excluding the City of Easton), Wicomico County, and Worcester County.



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For general information on the Bridge Subsidy Demonstration Program, see the Department of Housing and Community Development's website at mdhousing.org or email bridgesubsidy@mdhousing.org