



How can I find a great home where I can use my voucher?

Looking for a unit

- Search online using multiple websites, such as:
 - <http://seattle.craigslist.org>
 - www.zillow.com
 - www.aptfinder.org
 - www.trulia.com
 - www.hotpads.com
- Ask friends and relatives about available rentals
- Walk or drive around neighborhoods you are interested in and look for “for rent” signs

Be prepared to meet with landlords

- Call or email landlord about the rentals you find- make notes about the conversation (examples: left message, need to call back, appointment on Monday at 2:00)
- If the unit is rented already, ask if the landlord has other vacancies coming up or other buildings
- Ask about screening criteria before you apply and how flexible the landlord is with the criteria
- Be on time and make a great first impression
- Bring all documents and information you may need to complete the application (such as: id, income proof, voucher documents, contact info for references and old landlords or roommates)

Consider expanding your search if you are still having trouble

- Come to housing search open hours on Thursdays at the SHA Housing Service Center (190 Queen Anne Ave N) from 10:00am-12:00pm or contact the Housing Counselor team at 206-239-1739 or by email housingcounselor@seattlehousing.org to meet or get help.
- Re-prioritize your needs and explore other neighborhoods

Respond if your application is denied

- Get the “adverse action” from property management: this will show you the reason for denial in writing
- Ask the property to appeal your denial, double check your adverse action, are there errors on the screening background?
- Ask if anything you can do to turn that denial into an approval (examples: provide more rental references, provide a person statement like a cover letter, pay a higher deposit, get a cosigner)
- If you feel you have been discriminated against contact the Seattle Office of Civil Rights: 206-684-4500

(Upon request, Seattle Housing Authority will provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities so they can participate in SHA program)