



Housing SA – Community Partnerships and Growth

Eligibility for Community Housing

August 2014

To be eligible for Community Housing, Registrants¹ must meet:

1. State Government Eligibility criteria, consisting of the Base Criteria and the appropriate combination of Additional Criteria; **and**
2. The specific Community Housing Provider Eligibility Criteria for the organisation(s) for which you are registering.

1. STATE GOVERNMENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

a) Base Eligibility Criteria

To pass the Base Eligibility Criteria the Principal Registrant is required to:

- Be a resident of South Australia; **and**
- Not be a home owner, **and**
- Have an independent income.

Exceptions to the above criteria may apply in extenuating circumstances.

Registrants must be able to show proof of income and proof of identification.

b) Additional Eligibility Criteria (Income, Assets and Needs Tests)

To be eligible for Community Housing, the following criteria must be met:

- Base Eligibility Criteria and the Income and Assets Tests, **or**
- Base Eligibility Criteria and the Needs Test.

Exceptions to the above criteria may apply in extenuating circumstances.

Income Limits Test

Households with gross incomes higher than the figures below will not be eligible for housing unless they have a specific and verified need.

Household Type	Gross Weekly Amount	Gross Yearly Amount
Single person	\$ 970.00	\$ 50,423.00
Single person with 1 child	\$ 1,268.00	\$ 65,938.00
Single person with 2 children	\$ 1,417.00	\$ 73,695.00
Single person with 3 children	\$ 1,566.00	\$ 81,452.00
Single person with 4 children or more children	\$ 1,790.00	\$ 93,088.00
Couple	\$ 1,268.00	\$ 65,938.00
Couple with 1 child	\$ 1,417.00	\$ 73,695.00
Couple with 2 children	\$ 1,566.00	\$ 81,452.00
Couple with 3 children	\$ 1,790.00	\$ 93,088.00
Couple with 4 children or more children	\$ 2,014.00	\$ 104,724.00

The above Income Limits were last reviewed using Average Weekly Earnings data for November 2013, published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on 6 March 2014. Following the review, the Income Limits which appear in the table above have been updated, and remain based on the higher published limits as at November 2012.

¹ Note: The Principal Registrant is the household member who submits a Registration of Interest Form for Community Housing. The Registrant Household is the entire household listed on a Registration of Interest Form.

The following table outlines the types of Government payments that are not included in determining assessable income (refer to policy for full list):

Additional Assistance - Regular	Pharmaceutical Allowance / Board Provider
Additional Boarding Allowance	Multiple Birth Payments / Allowance
Bereavement Allowance	Financial Supplement Loan
Carer Allowance (Child)	Remote Area Allowance / Board Provider
Clean Energy Advance Payment	Funeral Bonds / Pre-paid Funeral Plans
Clean Energy Top Up	Second Home Allowance
Double Orphan Pension	Telephone Allowance
Incentive Allowance	Training Allowance
Living Allowance / Board Provider	Utilities Allowance
Pension Education Supplements	Prisoner of War (POW) Recognition Supplement

Asset Limits Test

To pass the Assets test, Registrants must not have assets which are valued above the current asset limit which applies to their household type. Current asset limits are:

Household Type	Asset Value
Households headed by a single person	\$ 348,000.00
Households headed by a couple	\$ 433,000.00

The above asset limits are based on Centrelink asset limits (non home owners), and will be updated as Centrelink limits change (usually 1 July each year). The above asset limits have been updated effective from 2 July 2014.

The Housing Needs Test

If you are not eligible due to you income or assets you may still be eligible if you;

- Cannot stay where you are in the short or medium term, and do not have any other appropriate housing options to move into; **or**
- Meet Automatic Needs Entry Criteria as prescribed in the *Community Housing Eligibility Policy and Procedures (Incorporating Housing Needs Assessments)* available on www.sa.gov.au/communityhousing.

2. COMMUNITY HOUSING ORGANISATION ELIGIBILITY

Each Community Housing Organisation prescribes its eligibility criteria in its by-laws.

Customers may access a complete list of Community Housing Provider organisations and their eligibility criteria at www.sa.gov.au/communityhousing.

3. THE COMMUNITY HOUSING CUSTOMER REGISTER

The Community Housing Customer Register (CHCR) is a register of people who meet the eligibility criteria for Community Housing. It is not a “waiting list”, since there is no guarantee that people on the Register will receive housing.

Registrants only need to fill out one registration form for Housing Associations and / or one registration form for Co-operative Housing, to be considered by all relevant organisations, as each form allows you to nominate multiple housing providers.

Registrants are assigned a needs category as follows:

Category 1	Registrants placed in Category 1 are deemed to be in urgent housing need with long term barriers to accessing or maintaining private housing options.
Category 2	Registrants placed in Category 2 are not considered to be currently in urgent housing need but have long term barriers to accessing or maintaining private housing options.
Category 3	Registrants are assigned to Category 3 if they are not considered to have urgent housing needs or long term barriers to other housing options. In other words, if they do not meet Category 1 or 2 criteria, they will be assigned Category 3 status.