



**U.S DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
(HUD)**

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS TO HUD HOUSING

A criminal record does not mean you don't belong

There are only two (2) explicit criminal charges that result in lifetime bans from HUD Public Housing and Section 8 programs. Those are:

1. Manufacturing/producing methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing
2. Sex offenders subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender registration program



There is also a 3-year ban on admission for someone evicted from federally assisted housing for drug-related criminal activity for 3 years after the date of eviction. However, exceptions can be made if they have successfully completed a drug rehabilitation program or if the circumstances which led to eviction no longer exist.

A HUD housing provider is also required to establish standards that prohibit admissions of people who are currently engaging in illegal drug use or show a pattern of abuse of drugs or alcohol and have reasonable cause to believe it may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by the other residents. In addition, they can set restrictions on admissions that are more stringent than these HUD requirements. However, they are often encouraged to make their criminal history restrictions to admission as lenient as possible.

HUD assisted housing can be accessed through privately owned housing properties that have assisted units, or Public Housing Authorities that operate public housing units or offer Housing Vouchers. People with criminal records that are facing housing insecurity are encouraged to apply for assistance through these entities.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL HUD FIELD OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION



WWW.HUD.GOV/LOCAL



FAIR HOUSING PROTECTIONS & CRIMINAL RECORDS

If a housing provider does not apply their criminal records restrictions equally to all applicants then that may be discrimination and could be a violation of the Fair Housing Act.

The Fair Housing Act Prohibits Discrimination in Housing because of:

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Religion
- Sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation)
- Familial Status
- Disability



If your criminal record is being used to discriminate against you based on one of these protected classes then you should file a Fair Housing Complaint with HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO).

TO FILE A FAIR HOUSING COMPLAINT:

Call:

1-800-669-9777 or
TTY: 1-800-877-8339.

Email:

ComplaintsOffice06@hud.gov

Mail:

Fort Worth Regional Office of FHEO
U.S. Department of HUD
307 W. 7th Street
Suite 1000
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Online:



www.hud.gov/fairhousing/fileacomplaint