

**Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program****Homeless/Housing Prevention Certification  
(Informational)****Persons living on the street**

Supportive services only—provides services such as outreach, food, health care, clothing—to persons who reside on the streets. In most cases, it is not feasible to require the homeless persons to document that they reside on the street. It is sufficient for the grantee's staff to certify that the persons served, indeed, reside on the street. The outreach or service worker should sign and date a general certification verifying that services are going to homeless persons and indicating where the persons reside.

**Persons coming from living on the street**

The grantee should obtain information to indicate that a participant is coming from the street. This may include names of other organizations or outreach workers who have assisted them in the recent past who might provide documentation.

If you are unable to verify that the person is coming from residing on the street, have the participant prepare or you prepare a written statement about the participant's previous living place and have the participant sign the statement and date it. Merely obtaining a self-certification is not adequate.

If the participant was referred by an outreach worker or social service agency, you must obtain written verification from the referring organization regarding where the person has been residing. This verification should be on agency letterhead, signed and dated.

**Persons coming from an emergency shelter for homeless persons**

The grantee should have written verification from the emergency shelter staff that the participant has been residing at the emergency shelter for homeless persons. The verification should be on agency letterhead, signed, and dated.

**Persons coming from transitional housing for homeless persons**

The grantee should have written verification from the transitional housing facility staff that the participant has been residing in the transitional housing. The verification should be on agency letterhead, signed and dated.

The grantee should also have written verification that the participant was living on the streets or in an emergency shelter prior to living in the transitional housing facility (see above for required documentation) or was discharged from an institution or evicted prior to living in the transitional housing facility and would have been homeless if not for the transitional housing (see below for required documentation).

**Persons from a short-term stay (up to 30 consecutive days) in an institution**

The grantee should have written verification from the institution's staff that the participant has been residing in the institution for 30 days or less. The verification should be signed and dated. The grantee also should have written verification that the participant was residing on the street or in an emergency shelter prior to the short-term stay in the institution. See above for guidance.

**Persons being evicted from a private dwelling**

The grantee must have evidence of the formal eviction proceedings indicating that the participant was being evicted within the week before receiving rental assistance.

If the person's family is evicting him/her, a statement describing the reason for eviction should be signed by the family member and dated. In other cases where there is no formal eviction process, persons are considered evicted when they are forced out of the dwelling unit by circumstances beyond their control. In those instances, the grantee must obtain a signed and dated statement from the participant describing the situation. The grantee must make efforts to confirm that these circumstances are true and have written verification describing the efforts and attesting to their validity. The verification should be signed and dated.

The grantee must also have information on the income of the participant and what efforts were made to obtain housing and why, without the rental assistance, the participant would be living on the street or in an emergency shelter.

**Persons being discharged from an institution**

The grantee must have evidence from the institution's staff that the participant was being discharged within the week before receiving rental assistance. The grantee must also have information on the income of the participant and what efforts were made to obtain housing and why, without the rental assistance, the participant would be living on the street or in an emergency shelter.

**Fleeing domestic violence**

The grantee must have written verification from the participant that he/she is fleeing a domestic violence situation. If the participant is unable to prepare the verification, prepare a written statement about the participant's previous living situation and have the participant sign the statement and date it.