

BRAP Eligibility

There are three components to BRAP eligibility as detailed below, ALL of which must be met to be considered for BRAP assistance.

I. DHHS requires that recipients of BRAP meet the following criteria:

1. Class Members of the AMHI Consent Decree; OR
2. Adults with Severe and Disabling Mental Illness who meet Eligibility For Care Criteria for Community Support Services as defined in most recent version at any given time of the Section 17.02 of the MaineCare Benefits Manual (see [Appendix 1](#)).

II. DHHS requires that all recipients of BRAP also meet the following conditions:

1. Adults who are receiving or are in the process of being (re-)instated for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)—in cases where applicants have no current SSI/SSDI or other income source, documentation of General Assistance or another source of income (TANF, Employment, etc) must be in place or documentation of conditional approval must be present; AND
2. Applicants must have previously applied for Federal Section 8 Rental Assistance through their local Public Housing Authority or other local Section 8 administering agency. If the wait list is closed, the applicant may be eligible for a waiver of this eligibility criterion provided that he/she agrees to and completes a Section 8 application at time of opening. Section 8 wait list status must be maintained to continue to receive BRAP assistance.

III. DHHS will provide funds, as available, on a ranked basis as indicated below:

1. Eligible adults who are leaving a State Institution (Riverview or Dorothea Dix); or a private psychiatric hospital bed; or has been discharged in the last 6 months from any of these institutions
2. Eligible adults who are homeless as defined by the US Department of Housing & Urban Development:
 - a. is sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned or condemned buildings; or are sleeping in emergency shelters. This may include persons who ordinarily sleep in one of the above places but are spending a short time (90 consecutive days or less) in a hospital or other institution; OR
 - b. is graduating from transitional housing specifically for homeless persons;
OR

- c. is a person being discharged within the week from institutions in which they have been residents for more than 30 consecutive days; and
 - i. no subsequent residences have been identified; and
 - ii. they lack the resources and support networks needed to obtain access to housing.
3. Eligible adults who are living in substandard housing in the community. A unit is substandard if the unit: Is dilapidated; Does not have operable indoor plumbing; Should, but does not, have a useable flush toilet inside the unit for the exclusive use of the family; Should, but does not, have a useable bathtub or shower inside the unit for the exclusive use of the family; Does not have electricity, or has inadequate or unsafe electrical service; Does not have a safe or adequate source of heat; Should, but does not have a kitchen; and/or Has been declared unfit for habitation by an agency or unit of government.
4. Eligible adults who are moving from community residential programs and other behavioral health facilities, to more independent living arrangements.

Note: Providing the three eligibility criteria above have been met, any previous BRAP recipient may re-apply for subsidy, as long as he or she is in good standing with any housing subsidy program administered by DHHS (Bridging Rental Assistance Program &/or Shelter Plus Care).

Former participants who are applying to re-enter a DHHS Subsidy Program must either:

- Repay 100% of any debt owed before a voucher is awarded OR
- In lieu of 100% payment of debt, a tenant may establish themselves with a legally assigned Representative Payee and complete a documented payment plan not to exceed 12 months OR;
- Charges may be adjudicated through the DHHS Appeals Procedure or DHHS Grievance Process.