



# EDEN MAINSTREAM WAITLIST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## 1. Am I or my family eligible for a Mainstream Housing Voucher?

To be eligible, voucher recipients must:

- Include one or more persons that meets the definition of a non-elderly person with disabilities. (The family may include additional members who are not non-elderly persons with disabilities.)
- Meet the income limits.

The definition of a “non-elderly person” and a “disability are discussed in Question 2. The income limit is discussed in Question 5.

Assuming your household’s income doesn’t exceed the income limitation, you only need one non-elderly and disabled family member. You can have more than one non-elderly and disabled family member but only one is required for your family to be eligible for the program. If you are the only person in your family and are an emancipated minor, you are not eligible for the program.

## 2. Is it for families only, or can singles apply?

Individuals can apply for the program as long as they meet the requirements.

## 3. What are the income limits?

Your total household income must fall below 80% of the area’s median income. Refer to this chart to see if you qualify.

**FY 2023 Income Limits Summary**

FY 2023 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income	FY 2023 Income Limit Category	Persons in Household							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cleveland-Elyria, OH MSA*	\$94,000	<b>Low Income Limit</b> (does not exceed 80% of median)	\$50,650	\$57,850	\$65,100	\$72,300	\$78,100	\$83,900	\$89,700	\$95,450
		<b>Very Low Income Limit</b> (does not exceed 50% of median)	\$31,650	\$36,200	\$40,700	\$45,200	\$48,850	\$52,450	\$56,050	\$59,700
		<b>Extremely Low Income Limit</b> (does not exceed 30% of median)	\$19,000	\$21,700	\$24,860	\$30,000	\$35,140	\$40,280	\$45,420	\$50,560

The Cleveland-Elyria, OH MSA contains the following areas: Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina Counties.

## 4. What does “non-elderly person with disabilities” mean?

A non-elderly person means that someone in the family is 18 years of age or older and less than 62 years of age who has a disability according to the following federal requirements:

- Receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) as a result of their disability.
- Is unable to be employed for 12 months or more as a result of a physical or mental condition that is medically documented.
- Has a physical, mental, or emotional condition:
  - that is expected to be long-term or last indefinitely;
  - that substantially interferes with their ability to live independently, and
  - where their ability to live independently could be improved by better housing conditions.
- Has a severe, chronic disability that:
  - Is related to one or a combination of mental or physical conditions;
  - Is likely to continue throughout their life;
  - Results in major limitations in three or more of the following areas: self-care, communication, learning, ability to move freely, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency; and
  - Results in an individual's need for lifelong, individualized support.

In other words, a non-elderly person with disabilities (for purposes of determining eligibility) is defined as a person 18 years of age or older and less than 62 years of age, and who:

Has a disability, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 423;

Is determined, pursuant to HUD regulations, to have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that:

Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;

Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and

Is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or

Has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 6001.

**5. If the eligible family member is going to turn 62 soon, would the family still be eligible for the voucher?**

The qualifying family member of the household (which may be yourself) must be age 18 to 61 at the time your household is formally admitted into the Mainstream voucher program. If the qualifying family member turns 62 after being admitted to the program, the family will remain eligible for the Mainstream voucher program as long as the family continues to comply with program requirements. "Admission to the program" means that all of the following must occur before the qualifying family member turns 62: you have been placed on the waitlist from the lottery, pulled off of the waitlist, located a housing unit, completed a Request for Lease Approval, EDEN has approved the rent amount, you have signed a lease, and EDEN has signed a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract with your landlord.

HAP is the subsidy, or the amount that EDEN will pay the landlord towards rent each month. If you are pulled from the lottery, your position on the waitlist will indicate how long it may take to be formally admitted to the program once your application for Mainstream assistance has been submitted. If the qualifying family member turns 62 at any point in this process prior to formal program admission, and there is no other qualifying family member in your household, you will be unable to receive subsidy through the Mainstream voucher program.

**6. What happens if the qualifying family member for the Mainstream Voucher Program leaves the household?**

If the qualifying member leaves the household prior to the household being formally admitted to the program, and there is no other qualifying member of the household, the family will no longer be eligible. If the qualifying member leaves the household after being formally admitted to the Mainstream Voucher Program, the household may continue to be subsidized.

**7. What are the household income limits for this program?**

The income limits are set by HUD and based on household size in the area. The Mainstream Voucher Program is meant to serve families who are low-income (at or below 80% of the area median income of the area), though preferences are for households with extremely low and very low incomes. HUD user has additional information about income limits:

[https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2019/select\\_Geography.odn](https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2019/select_Geography.odn)

General information about the Housing Choice Voucher Program is available here:

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact\\_sheet](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet)

**8. Will this be a lottery wherein people will be assigned a number, and only numbers drawn will go on the list? Or, will people be added as their applications are received?**

Everyone who submits an application during the wait-list opening period will be eligible for the lottery to get on the waitlist. Applications can be submitted at any time during the three-day opening period, and all applications have an equal chance at getting pulled in the lottery, regardless of when the application was submitted. The lottery will be pulled after the waitlist opening period is closed.

**9. Do I have to go to EDEN to apply?**

No, the application is an online form, and can be filled out on any computer, phone, tablet, etc. that has access to the internet. If you need help or other assistance, EDEN will have limited computers available to use during the wait list opening period, during regular business hours.

If you need assistance or want to receive help completing the form (for example, you speak a different language or have difficulty seeing the form), please email [EDENmainstream@EDENcle.org](mailto:EDENmainstream@EDENcle.org) or call (216) 462-0856 (TDD/TTY 1-800-545-3833 ext. 873). If you call, please leave a voice mail message with your name and best way to reach you (phone number or email address) so we can respond to you promptly.

**10. Do I need to turn in any paperwork?**

To apply to be part of the lottery for the Mainstream waitlist, you do not need to provide anything. Just fill out and submit the application available online at EDEN's website during the waitlist opening between 12:01 AM Monday, November 13, and 11:59 PM Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Please note that all forms must be submitted by 11:59 pm on November 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are selected for the waitlist via the lottery, you will be contacted by EDEN and will need to provide paperwork and additional information at that time.

**11. How will I know if I am selected for the waitlist? How will I know whether I am a lottery winner?**

If your application is selected to be on the waitlist through the lottery process, you will receive an email and letter from EDEN.

**12. I need help filling out the application. What can I do?**

Please contact your case manager, if you have one, or other support services if you would like help filling out the application. Anyone can help you that you feel comfortable working with. Computers are available at local libraries.

If you need assistance or want to receive help completing the form (for example, you speak a different language or have difficulty seeing the form), please contact email [EDENmainstream@EDENcle.org](mailto:EDENmainstream@EDENcle.org) or call (216) 462-0856 (TDD/TTY 1-800-545-3833 ext. 873). If you call, please leave a voice mail message with your name and best way to reach you (phone number or email address) so we can respond to you

promptly. We can set up a time you can come to EDEN (7812 Madison Ave, Cleveland OH 44102 on November 13, 14, and 15 from 8:30 am - 4:45 pm).

**13. How many people will be selected for the waitlist?**

EDEN will select 350 individuals from all applications submitted during the specified time period. Names will be chosen at random, and notification will be issued to everyone who completed the pre-application.

**14. How do I get on the waitlist?**

You get on the Mainstream waitlist by:

- Filling out an application online when the waitlist is open at some time between 12:01am on November 13th and 11:59 pm on November 15<sup>th</sup> AND
- Your application is randomly selected during the lottery, which will occur soon after the waitlist closes.

Not everyone who fills out an application during the waitlist opening will be randomly selected for the waitlist, but every application submitted has an equal chance of being selected for the waitlist.

**15. When does the lottery open and close?**

The waitlist is open 12:01 AM November 13, 2023. It will close at 11:59 pm on November 15, 2023.

**16. Is there any advantage of applying for the lottery soon after it opens?**

This will be a random lottery so all application submissions have an equal chance of being selected for the waitlist, no matter when it was submitted during the opening. This is NOT a first come-first served process.

**17. How are lottery winners selected?**

A random number generator will be used to select which applications will get on the waitlist.

**18. If I am pulled as a lottery winner, will my place on the waiting list be according to when I was pulled?**

Your place on the lottery will depend on any preference points awarded. For applications with the same number of preference points, the order in which your application was selected for the lottery will determine your position. Please keep in mind that your position may change depending on preference points awarded to you or other applicants; additionally, preference points can be adjusted and wait list position may change if in the eligibility process it is determined that an application was awarded preference points to which they were not eligible.

**19. If I am a lottery winner, what is the next step?**

If you win the lottery and are selected for the wait list, you will receive an email and letter from EDEN. From that point until you receive information from us that we have a voucher available for you, please keep EDEN updated with your current information (address, phone number, email address, case manager name, etc) so we can contact you as soon as we have a voucher available for you.

**20. The question I have is not listed here. How can I get it answered?**

You are also welcome to email [EDENmainstream@EDENcle.org](mailto:EDENmainstream@EDENcle.org) or call (216) 462-0856 (TDD/TTY 1-800-545-3833 ext. 873). If you call, please leave a voice mail message with your name and best way to reach you (phone number or email address) so we can respond to you promptly.