

Minnesota Department of Corrections
Adult Halfway House/Rental Assistance
Client Eligibility Guidelines

As resources permit, the department will provide limited financial assistance under the authority of the commissioner of corrections to house eligible clients in adult halfway house placement or provide rental assistance in order to enhance public safety. Eligibility criteria have been established in recognition of the finite resources of the department of corrections (DOC). The DOC prioritizes department-funded residential assistance to situations that maximize public safety and where the client's or family resources, public assistance, or other sources of funds for housing are nonexistent or have been exhausted.

Criteria

In order for a client to be eligible for DOC-funded adult halfway house placement or rental assistance the following must be reviewed by the case manager and/or supervising agent prior to submitting the Housing Referral Form

A. Eligibility Criteria for Department of Corrections funded adult halfway house placement:

1. The client:
 - a) Has no alternative approved residence option and has exhausted all personal financial resources available for housing (see 3 below); and
 - b) Is on mandatory Intensive Supervised Release (ISR) supervision: level 3, sex recidivism probability of 4.3% or higher, or violent recidivism probability of 75% or higher, or Felony recidivism score is 100 or higher
2. The DOC pays for a maximum of 60 days. After 60 days, DOC-funded placement ends. If, at that time, an alternative approved residence is not established or alternative funding from the responsible county for continued placement at the adult halfway house placement is not realized, the supervising agent continues the supervision of the client in the community. An extension request must be made using form 205.130F Housing Referral Form
3. When evaluating a client's financial circumstances under number one, case managers and supervising agents must consider income, assets, DOC client account history and/or any other meaningful special circumstances. Clients who have an individual ability to pay for a halfway house placement are not eligible for DOC-funded placement.
4. Notwithstanding the above criteria, a client on release status for a loss of life offense or a life-sentenced client may be considered for DOC-funded adult halfway house placement.

Reentry Services Housing Support unit staff must apply the above criteria before approving payment for an adult halfway house placement. **Only caseworkers/agents may request DOC-funded adult halfway house placement.**

B. Eligibility Criteria for DOC Rental Assistance:

1. The first criterion for eligibility is a determination that the client has no alternative approved residence option and has exhausted all personal financial resources available for housing. When evaluating a client's financial circumstances, caseworkers and supervising agents must consider income, assets, DOC client account history and/or any other meaningful special circumstances. Clients who have an individual ability to pay for placement are not eligible for DOC funds.
2. The second criterion is that the client is assigned to ISR, Supervised Release or the Challenge Incarceration Program (CIP).
3. ECRC Level 2 and 3 registrants are given priority.
4. Funds can pay for a deposit and up to one month of rent or hotel stay per client. Any extension requires additional explanation and approval from the Reentry Services Housing Supports unit.
5. The caseworkers, agent, and client are responsible for securing housing locations.

Reentry Services Housing Supports Unit must do their best to accommodate requests but reserve the right to limit the amount awarded or deny requests deemed unreasonable. **Only case managers/agents may put in a request for Emergency Housing**